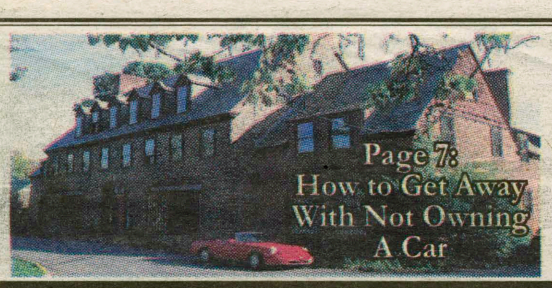
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THE SPECTATOR

PHOTO COURTESY OF EMILY PALLIN '09

Hamilton Volunteers clean up at the Utica Zoo as a part of HAVOC's annual Make a Difference Day.

HAVOC Make A Difference Day: Legos, Lions, & Love

by Alden Masters '11
News Writer

On the first weekend of the 2007-2008 academic year, over 200 Hamilton students and staff rolled up their sleeves to volunteer around Rome and the greater Utica area. A record number of Hamilton Students participated in HAVOC's annual Make A Difference Day on Saturday, September 1.

HAVOC, Hamilton's student-run community service group, is the organizing force behind Hamilton's Make A Difference Day. Said HAVOC President Emily Pallin k'09, "Make A Difference Day is an event that we, and our partners in Utica, look forward to every year. The event fosters a strong sense of community both on the Hill and between Hamilton and Utica."

The day began at 10:30 am with a speech from Pallin, who offered words of thanks to all the volunteers. She also provided statistics about the disparity between the opportunities at Hamilton and of the graduation rates in Utica, and said, "We are so fortunate and privileged to be here at Hamilton."

Student volunteers, clad in conspicuous bright pink Make A Difference Day shirts, worked in groups, some of which were comprised of members Adirondack Adventure trips, residence halls and sports teams. Different groups volunteered their services at 12 different locations: the Loretto Center, United Cerebral Palsy, Hope House,

*see **HAVOC**, page 3*

The 411 On Hamilton's New Reverse 911 Response System

by Chelsea Mann '09
News Writer

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Although Connect-ED's warning will not look like this, hopefully you will never find out what it does look like.

On September 20, 2007, something unusual will happen on campus: every Hamilton community member's cell phone, dorm phone, classroom phone, office phone, e-mail address, and text message inbox will be contacted simultaneously as part of a test-run for Connect-ED, Hamilton's new emergency communication system. Connect-ED, purchased shortly after the Virginia Tech disaster in April, is a reverse 911 system that 911 dials students and faculty- instead of vice versa- in cases of emergency threats of the highest priority (like active shooters).

"[Connect-ED] enables us to rapidly and redundantly communicate an emergency message through multiple channels," explained Director of Environmental Protection, Safety, and Sustainability Brian Hansen. "The Virginia Tech tragedy, if nothing else, illustrated that some emergencies are so pressing that traditional communication tools are inadequate in terms of their rapidity and thoroughness."

Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Meredith Harper Bonham and other members of the Hamilton Emergency Response Team (HERT) have the ability to activate the Connect-ED system in the case of a serious emergency. Depending on the nature of the incident, Bonham could potentially communicate an emergency message to campus in as little as three minutes.

"The test-run on September 20 has two functions," said Bonham, "to raise awareness and to test the data." If a student's cell phone fails to ring on this designated test day, then this would indicate the presence of a data error. Either the student failed to submit his contact data to Hamilton, or there was a system-based communication error. "HERT is not trying to be alarmist," Bonham explained. "We simply want to prepare students as best we can should an emergency occur."

As another safety precaution, next semester Hamilton will install a card-swipe system that will substitute the use of keys for entry into all the exteriors doors on campus. Once the card-swipe system is instituted, any attempt to prop open exterior doors will signal a loud alarm. While students may initially resist the new system because of the inability to prop open exterior residential hall doors, they will hopefully come to recognize the triviality of this inconvenience in light of the safety and security benefits on campus.

In addition to implementing the Connect-ED and card-swipe system, Hamilton is encouraging students to devise a personal evacuation plan. This would be activated in the case of a sustained power outage, Pandemic Influenza (Panflu) outbreak, or other emergency situation that would require the college to close for a period of time. Inspired in part by the advice of the World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Dean of Students Nancy Thompson e-mailed students this summer with a request that they provide their cell phone numbers

*see **Response**, page 3*

8 Hamilton Students Issued Summonses in Town

by Erin Hoener '10
Managing Editor

Since the 2007 fall semester began, eight Hamilton College students have been issued appearance tickets by the Kirkland Police Department. On Sunday, August 26, before classes began, Hamilton students living off-campus threw a party at a house on Kirkland Avenue in downtown Clinton. Kirkland Police Department, responding to noise complaints, arrived on the scene. According to students, a single party-goer's irreverent approach to the police officers prompted the officers to clear out the party and issue four residents of the house appearance tickets for the unlawful sale and/or distribution of alcohol to minors.

A resident of the house was contacted, but refused comment.

In response to this incident, a meeting was planned for Wednesday, September 5 for all students of the College living off-campus. According to Jeff Landry, Assistant Dean of Students, the administration tries "hard to give the students all the information they need about what it means to live in town" in a similar meeting shortly after the housing lottery in the spring. It appears that the additional meeting did not take place soon enough as four more students were issued appearance tickets by the Kirkland Police Department on Saturday, September 1.

On Saturday evening students gathered at an off-campus residence, popularly referred to as the "Ronald McDonald" house, for a party. The "White" party (at which party-goers are dressed all in white) had originally been

*see **Summonses**, page 2*

PHOTO BY PATRICK D. HODGENS '09

The "Ronald McDonald" house is near McDonald's in Clinton.

Student Incidents Were Addressed at Meeting With Town Officials and KPD

from ***Summonses****, page 1*

scheduled for Tuesday, August 28. However, the residents of the house took note of the previous weekend's events and according to Nico Drohojowski '08, rescheduled the party for the following Saturday in order to be more accommodating to their neighbors. Drohojowski added, "We spoke to our neighbors informing them of our plan to host a party, and assuring them that the party would be cleared out by midnight. Our neighbors said that the party would not be a problem for them."

According to students on the scene, the party seemed standard at the onset of the night, but continued to grow larger as the house grew more and more crowded. The crowd spilled into the backyard, possibly causing enough noise for the complaints that brought the Kirkland Police Department to the scene. The KPD arrived at the house at approximately10:30pm, and insisted that the party-goers clear out.

A student on the scene described the ensuing fleeing of students as "a sea of white walking to the bars and back to campus." Four of the six residents of the house were issued appearance tickets that evening.

In addition to the police charges, the students will face disciplinary action on the Hill. "If students get in trouble in town, they will suffer consequences on campus," Landry reiterated. He claimed that students will be informed by mail if they are to receive one or two points for small violations, but a hearing with the dean may be necessary for more serious cases.

At the meeting on Wednesday, September 5, Pat Ingalls, Jeff Landry, Chief of Police Dan English, and the Mayor of Clinton joined forces to, as Ingalls described, remind the students who live off campus "what it means to be a good citizen of Clinton." According to Landry, 80 percent of the 42 seniors who live off campus attended the meeting.

The Mayor of Clinton welcomed the students and discussed general town policies including trash pick-up and parking, while Chief English discussed the acceptable and unacceptable behaviors and specific laws that are the most likely to effect the students. English conveyed his multiple concerns for large house parties to The Spectator, as noise, public parking, disorderly conduct and open containers. English also informed the students that if they are going to be hosting a party that gets out of hand they could contact that Kirkland Police Department for assistance in it clearing out. Hoping to avoid that situation English went over his advice on how to throw a successful party in town. These suggestions included keeping noise and the number of people under control and wrapping parties up by midnight.

Drohojowski expressed confusion and dismay at the recent events and information they were given. "We find ourselves in a tricky situation now. We want to throw parties for students, but we can't put ourselves at risk for a similar outcome. We were informed that a good time to end a party is midnight, but the police cleared out the party on Saturday at 10:30." Many students share Drohojowski's concerns, but students, administrators and town officials are confident that a working understanding can be reached.

Care about what's happening in the world?

Care about what's happening on campus?

Care about having a good time with some smart and motivated people?

Do something about it.

Write for *Spec* news.

email mjreed@hamilton.edu

Yao Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives

by Mallory Reed '10
News Editor

Hamilton College is not known for its diversity. While we often receive recognition for our "strong sense of community," it is a community that does not reflect the population of the United States or the rest of the world.

In response to a growing nationwide concern about the way colleges approach diversity, the Hamilton administration is studying ways to expand the diversity of the faculty and student body. According to Dean of Faculty Joseph Urgo, "Even though we are in a corner of Upper State New York, we want the population of Hamilton to reflect a cross-section of the entire population of the United States, including an international component."

At the commencement of the 2007-2008 academic year, Steven Yao, Associate Professor of English at Hamilton, began his duties as the Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives. Dean Yao's position has undergone what Urgo called a "natural evolution" since a Strategic Plan proposal in 2002 first called for a diversity office at the high administration level.

While Associate Dean of Faculty Kirk Pillow became the Affirmative Action Officer and point person for all faculty diversity issues in 2002, Urgo said that Dean Pillow's other duties as Associate Dean of Faculty did not leave him time or energy to focus on the great need for diversity assistance among faculty. To keep diversity initiatives from "getting lost," Urgo created Dean Yao's two-fifths part-time position of Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives.

Dean Yao said that his role as Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives is "a positive initial step in addressing diversity issues on campus," but he added, "Because of the part-time scale of the position, it is only a step. It will make some difference, but more difference could be made."

Even in a limited position, Yao has many responsibilities focusing mainly on recruiting and retaining minority faculty at Hamilton, which is something the school has struggled with in the past. Yao said that Hamilton's "revolving door" has much to due with its history of privilege, demographics, and location. According to Yao, "The things that make Hamilton great also pose problems for minority faculty." However, Yao said that the creation of a position that focuses

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New Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives Steve Yao.

on faculty diversity issues sends an important signal to inquiring minority professors: "That there is someone focused on them."

As Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives, Yao plans to convene a Faculty of Color Alliance, which will serve as a venue for faculty to discuss and share ideas about teaching and thriving at Hamilton.

Yao also acts as the institutional representative to organizations such as the POSSE Foundation, the Consortium for Higher Achievement and Success (CHAS), the Consortium for Faculty Diversity (CFD). According to Dean Urgo, it is important "to talk about diversity so students and faculty realize its importance."

Furthermore, Dean Yao is an ombudsperson, which is a position designed to help mediate any situations involved in campus climate issues without rising to an official level. He will work quietly and privately to solve problems without making them a public issue. Dean Urgo said that Yao's office is located in Root Hall away from the rest of the administration in Buttrick Hall so that "people don't have to come to the Dean's office; rather they can go to Dean Yao and talk privately."

Yao said, "As an ombudsperson, I am available to students, faculty, and staff as a resource to help address and resolve any issues relating to diversity and inclusiveness."

Yao plans to work closely with Associate Dean of Diversity and Accessibility Allan Harrison who focuses on diversity issues relating to student life. According to Dean Harrison, "We are looking to bring more collaborative efforts campus-wide to address diversity issues."

Yao said, "I'm looking forward to working with Allan, especially with heritage months." Both Harrison and Yao commented on the importance of formal recognition, both socially and academically, of the range of backgrounds represented at Hamilton.

Dean Yao will continue to work with the academic departments at Hamilton in seeking ways to attract high-quality minority faculty. Some strategies include welcoming language in advertisements and personal meetings with candidates. Yao said that these strategies will "evolve and morph as they are pursued as each case and department is different."

Through his work as Assistant Dean of Faculty for Diversity Initiatives, Yao hopes to "create a community of inclusiveness at Hamilton to benefit all." While Yao said that Hamilton has been incredibly welcoming to him, "this is not always the case across campus. The community still has issues with establishing an inclusive environment." He sees his position as a "good first step," but revealed, "I think we all recognize that more work could be done." Still, Yao said, "I am looking forward to seeing what kind of difference I can make."

New All Campus Response System

from ***Response****, page 1*

and two emergency addresses located within a 500-mile radius of campus to which they would flee in the case of a serious emergency.

"Panflu is an emergency event type of high severity and low probability," explained Hansen. Avian Influenza, or "bird" flu, has the potential to escalate to a pandemic scale. Although Avian flu is native to wild birds, it has already been transmitted to humans in many countries throughout Asia, Africa and Europe.

If this type of influenza mutates to the point where it is human to human transmissible, the result could be a pandemic crisis. Because a pandemic crisis is dependent upon a mutation event, physicians will not be able to identify the new strain until it symptomatically affects human populations. Thus, the virus's presence could go unnoticed for a long time.

Even more unsettling is the fact that college students are at a higher risk for contracting the virus. According to Bonham, "There are two reasons why the college population is especially vulnerable to contracting the Avian flu." First, the fact that college students live in close-quarters heightens the opportunity for person-to-person transmission of the virus. Second, if the next Panflu is anything like the 1918 Spanish Flu, then the mortality-rate for college-age students will be much higher than it would be for older adults and young children. This prediction is based on the 1918 Spanish Flu experience, in which the stronger immune system of college-age students resulted in an overreaction to the virus.

"We're trying to anticipate remote possibilities," said Thompson, "so it's hard to know if you've anticipated the right things." Fortunately, the new Connect-ED system enables the HERT members to communicate and respond quickly and efficiently to even the unanticipated emergency situations.

"I hope students will appreciate the importance of having this plan and that they will cooperate as we test and fine tune it," Thompson said in her final remark. Students need only reflect on the September 11 and Virginia Tech tragedies to appreciate the importance of Hamilton's emergency planning.

HAVOC "Make A Difference Day" Makes a Difference

from ***HAVOC****, page 1*

New Horizons, Utica Zoo, For the Good, JCTOD, the Children's Museum, the Humane Society, Resonance Center, Salvation Army, and Emmaus House.

Volunteer groups were bused to their respective locations for a day of work on a variety of projects including painting, cleaning, organizing, moving furniture, and preparing and serving meals. All of the Make a Difference Day volunteers rounded out their day back on campus with a barbeque and a chance to relax and reflect.

Rebecca Behrens '11 volunteered with several members of her Adirondack Adventure Basecamp trip. Working at the Children's Museum, she "cleaned windows, sanitized toys, and helped with the general maintenance of the museum." She said, "this event really got me excited about participating in future HAVOC projects throughout the year." To sum up her day of volunteer work at the Children's Museum, Lou Vilardo '11 simply said, "Disinfecting Legos disinfected my soul."

Max Schillalies '11 was a member of the large group that went to Utica Zoo. Schillalies said, "We helped clean up around the cages so that the zoo will be more enjoyable for the visitors." He added, "We also made the zoo keeper's jobs easier for the day."

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE RYDER '09

Stephanie Ryder '09 and Lesley Ryder '11, members of the Women's Rugby team, take a break from community service at the Utica Zoo to pet a porcupine.

Pallin hopes students "will become inspired to continue making a difference throughout the semester after spending a day volunteering for local communities in need."

HAVOC will have a table at the activities fair on Friday September 7 along Martin's Way for students interested in volunteering throughout the semester. Next week, HAVOC is also hosting a volunteer fair for ongoing community service projects around our community.

ITS Improving Wireless Internet Access On Campus

by Kara Labs '09
News Writer

As the '07-'08 school year begins at Hamilton College, the wireless network is getting a face-lift. While this new secure wireless network is available only to employees and students and will always be secure and non-broadcast, the unsecure network will be available to visitors in a few select locations on campus. This expansion is more secure, which means that members of the Hamilton community will have to use a username and password to access the secure network, and will provide for secure transmission of information through the wireless network.

Information and Technology Services has been working on expanding wireless coverage on the Hamilton campus for several years. "The planning for the most recent expansion began in the fall of 2006 and the actual installation of hardware began in March 2007," said Dave Smallen, Vice President for Information Technology.

This new expansion was made possible through a generous gift of $370,000 from charter trustee David Solomon '84 and his wife Mary Solomon. The Solomons, charter trustees since 2005, made their donation in January 2007.

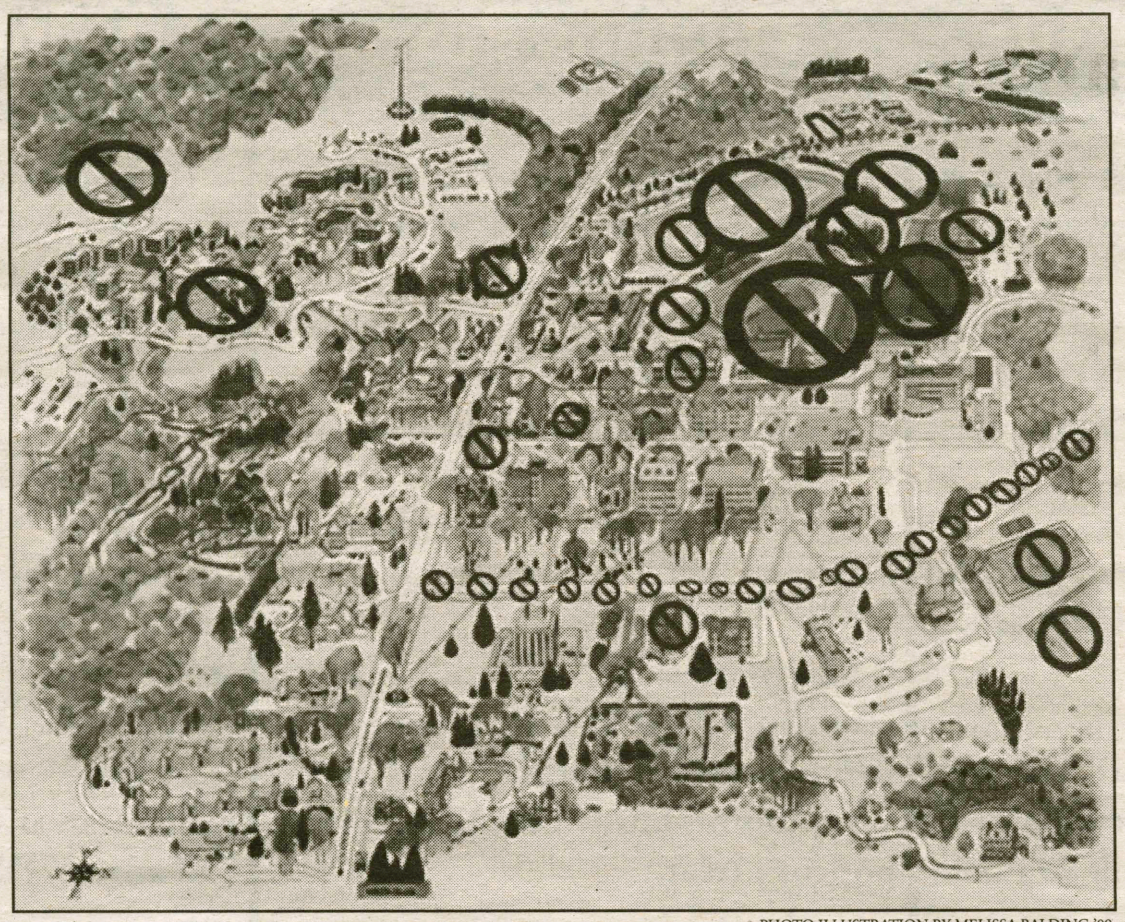

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MELISSA BALDING '09

While wireless internet has been expanded at Hamilton, it is still unavailable at many locations such as List, Shambach, Benedict Hall and the Molly Root House.

The new wireless network is currently capable of supporting all laptop computers at Hamilton. While approximately 90 percent of the student population has wireless-capable laptops, only a small portion of Hamilton faculty utlize laptops because many still prefer the desktops in their offices. Still, it is faster to connect to the network using a network cable.

Currently coverage is still expanding and ITS hopes that all the wireless access points will be completely installed by later this fall. The buildings still to be completed are: 3 College Hill Road, the fitness center, the gym and squash courts, Buttrick Hall, Benedict Hall, List and Shambach Halls, Minor Theatre and The Molly Root House. There is a link on the ITS webpage to the complete list of buildings to be wired and progress is updated weekly.

In regards to outdoor wireless coverage, most of the campus is covered except for the athletic fields. The project is still a work in progress. The Dunham Quad and Campus Road still need some improvement because wireless coverage is limited. In addition, ITS is in the process of compiling an all-campus map that will show coverage areas, which will be available soon.

This wireless expansion project is being led by Dave Roback, ITS Network/System administrator along with many other ITS employees. TAG Solutions is the contractor that is installing the wiring and hardware for the system. Another contractor, IP Logic, is facilitating configuration of the software and the surveying of buildings to assure complete wireless coverage.

According to ITS, most people were able to configure their computers using the online and television tutorials or other documentation on the website. Smallen concludes, "I'm sure there are still issues that have to be worked out but over 1000 people have already configured their computers to use the secure network. Several times each day over 700 people are simultaneously using the secure wireless network."

INSIGHTS & IDEAS

How To Get Away With Not Owning a Car

by Halley Allaire '08
Insights & Ideas Columnist

This is my fourth term trapped on the peak of hell. Not because I don't like this college, but because the Hill has effectively become a prison. My name is Halley, and I am not the proud owner of a speed machine. While I highly recommend experiencing the joys of car ownership, I understand this is sometimes frustrated by expense, age, or possibly multiple DUIs. My purpose for this column is to help the unfortunates like myself learn to survive without wheels of their own.

Lesson One: *Beg*. You cannot afford a car; therefore you cannot afford pride. Of course there are lines you shouldn't cross. The Jitney is the first that comes to mind. Is the Jitney safe, convenient, and extremely useful for those small trips to Target? Yes. Will the upperclassmen laugh as you wait outside on that little red bench? God yes. You've been here over a week. Find a kid with a car, and beg for mercy. Commons coffee isn't getting any better: if you still think your knees aren't up to the test after a few weeks of that diesel spill, you're tougher than I. The same applies to food, of course. Having a nice midnight snack is more important than having a sense of dignity.

As a general rule, kids without cars need to be friendlier than those with the privilege. Screw on those smiles children. If you ever need to borrow a car for that elusive Hamilton activity, the date, the aching jaw will be worth the trouble. This also applies to the more common need for a ride home to (most likely) Greenwich, CT. I think everyone agrees that a car is preferable to a bus. So, you're going to have to do your Facebook research. Find someone who lives near home. I'm sorry but your parents just don't love you enough to pick your stranded self up.

You cannot afford a car; therefore, you cannot afford pride.

Lesson Two: *Go Abroad*. If you cannot beg, borrow or steal a ride, avoid the situation altogether. Leave. Some kids go abroad for cultural immersion, others for little homework and time on the beach. Both are solid excuses. However, there's another perk for the car-less: the lack of need for a car.

Outside of upstate America, you will be amazed to learn that, unlike here, public transit is more than a running joke. From my own experiences in and around Scotland, trains and buses are a godsend. They're quick, cheap, and sympathetic to the hangover. Here, one must sacrifice ones dignity for a weekend car for that Spice Girls concert no one else wants to go to. Abroad, a weekend trip to Dublin for some Guinness is easily facilitated by Ryan Air. Forget cars for a year - move far, far away.

Lesson Three: *Buy for Others*. Deny it as we might, bribery makes the world go round. Know your audience. Some bribes should be made in cash, others in diamonds. At Hamilton College, the payment of choice is Keystone. Considering your bank account will not be producing a BMW anytime soon (let's be honest, probably not even a Honda), expect to be making a good deal of trips to Hannaford's to pay for your needs.

Before offering these bribes, know your price. You wouldn't want to get fleeced on an $11 rack. If you need the car to buy and are 21, offer to help your friends out. This will cost you nothing, which is fair if they were going anyhow. If you need to take the car a short distance, such as our friendly nearby downtown Utica, suggest splitting a rack or giving a whole. For longer trips, expect to ask many people. Even for a liter of Grey Goose most kids are going to turn you down. After all, that death trap is their little jewel, rust or no rust.

If you're not 21, I suggest you invest in a snow shovel and be prepared to pay for many, many tanks of gas. Oh, and rejection. Be prepared to spend many a weekend not road tripping to see your significant other.

Lesson Four: If you haven't figured out by the end of four years that the only way you've really been surviving without a car is that weekends start on Thursday, you're probably a card carrying Anime Club enthusiast. Once you leave the Hill, that's going to change (unless you're moving back to the old basement.) Get a job, get a car, or you're going to have a very hard time getting a life. Check with me in a year or two if you need proof.

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Don't have a car like this? If you don't make the right friends, you'll be waiting next to it for the Jitney.

Thumbs up

- ATX Blood Drive: Just a reminder, lost blood doesn't equal lost pounds.

- IM sports: Allowing ex-varsity athletes to relive the glory days. BYOB.

- Losing 30 lbs. so I can audition as Colin Creevey for Hogwarts at Hamilton.

- Seeing that awkward kid from neurobiology hammered on Saturday night: Thank you Babbitt crawl.

- Crew is looking to recruit athletes. What the hell does the crew team need with *athletes*?

Thumbs down

- Expanding the Dark Side is like giving a kid with Down Syndrome more Down Syndrome.

- Sorry I ate your Beta fish, Jacob. It didn't cure my AIDS after all.

- Psi U: Making DU look like the Fencing Club.

- Fire Alarms: Bleeding out of my ears and scrambling my brain is definitely worth finding out that some moron burned his late-night popcorn treat.

- Havoc Make a Difference day: Lets face it, there's no saving Utica

by Stephen Allinger '09 & Sarah Cornblath '08

Who Cares?

- Hampoll says 60% of Hamilton students are single. In unrelated news, 60% of Hamilton students are in Capoeira.

- Poster sale: Congratulations, "The Kiss" is just what you needed to complete your quest to be the most stereotypical college student ever.

- The Career Center: If I wanted bad advice, I'd ask Kaillie Briscoe.

- Employers looking at Facebook profiles: Whatever, if you're not into cross-dressing and Mad Dog, I don't want to work for you anyway.

THE SPECTATOR

WELCOME BACK!

Now that students have ascended the Hill for the year, some for the first time and some for the last, and gotten settled in to their new classes and new homes around campus, its time to take the time to look ahead at the coming semester and year.

Hamilton offers a plethora of opportunities. Everything, from interesting and specialized classes to a diverse array of social activities, lies at the fingertips of the students.

In fact, just a simple glance through this very paper may prove more revealing than one would expect.

This summer alone students traveled to places like Tasmania and Kenya, and some stayed right here to explore the world around them through the lens of science. This past weekend students traveled to Utica to volunteer their time and energy. Across the board, our students are taking the time to enrich and further their understandings and experiences in life and their world, and Hamilton is always there to facilitate the process, whether through classes or programs.

So this year, think ahead and plan ahead. Opportunities don't seize themselves. So keep an ear to the ground and an open mind on your shoulders, and next time your friend comes over with Planet Earth on DVD and a couple bags of potato chips, don't just talk about exploring the world around you, but do it.

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Talk About the iPod Nation

by Jamie Bushell '09
Insights & Ideas Contributor

When I think of New York City, I have a rather ambiguous feeling. While New York City is often thought of as the "Best Place on Earth," I believe that New York City also has the uncanny ability to make even the most beautiful and richest feel insignificant. It's a city that can eat you alive. It's a city that is not dominated by its inhabitants. No, it is instead dominated by huge buildings that intrude the sky creating an unequal and uncomfortable disparity between man and the man-made. Walking around I experience what seems to be an unimportant yet ironic fury. With a frantically fast pace, people's spirits consequently ebb. Nobody knows how to deal with this tremendous amount of uncoordinated energy, and thus begins the inception of what I deem the "iPod Nation."

It's like watching a really good silent movie. Repeated images move slowly, then quickly, then slowly again across the screen. The silence creates powerful meaning. Although no one is speaking, it is very loud. Everyone is listening, but not to each other, just to themselves. Selfish, I know. With headphone wires hanging around their necks and iPods tucked into jacket pockets, custom cases, or purses, people's eyes are opened wide, staring straight into their *own* world of recorded music. While sitting on the train and subway, semi-freakishly (I admit) observing the actions of these "iPoders," I ponder to myself, "Why is it that this new iPod generation constantly walks around with ear plugs permanently implanted inside their ears?

"May I sit here?" I ask the young woman sitting in the window seat on the LIRR. She glances up at me and pushes the pause button on her iPod. I can sense the briefcase-carrying businessmen creeping up behind me, anxious to score a seat of their own. The woman fiddles with the hold button on her iPod and finally motions for me to sit down next to her. As I sit down, she places the headphones back into her ears and stares straight ahead. What happened to friendly small talk? Are people now just so self-involved, so consumed with only themselves? As I join her, and also stare straight ahead, I am able to hear the ironic silence around me. Literally *everyone* is listening to their music. Unbelievable! Without a doubt, I can't help but notice that we have become a completely anti-social society. When asking myself why this has happened, I can merely speculate.

Are we beginning to suffer from the consequences of silence?

I always thought that the purpose of headphones was to drown out unwanted loud noises. Today, however, while sitting on the train or walking on the crowded streets of the city, the only noise that exists plays into all iPoders' ears. If you happen to be one of the few non-iPoders, well then, consider yourself lucky because you are able to enjoy the presumed luxury of silence. So much for using headphones to eliminate noise.

In a growing society, change is inevitable; however, such change is often complicated. In our technologically savvy society, it is quite obvious that the purposes of listening to music are changing, or should I say, expanding. Rather than just listening to music for pure enjoyment, people are now listening to music as a way to exclude themselves from the public ear (*and* eye). When sitting on a subway, if someone is listening to their IPod, it is as if they cannot even be seen; his/her existence may as well be imaginary. I can't help but wonder if an underlying social issue exists beneath this new trend of becoming a hermit in the public eye. I wonder... could these acts of isolation be related to the unpredictable aftermath of 9/11? Could people's desire to break away and escape from society's problems be so tremendous that they have to use music as a means to quell their new fears... on their way to work? If so, there seems to be a much larger issue at stake rather than just the possibility of breaking the so-called standard of "social etiquette."

Now, don't get me wrong—I promise, I am not just some cynical and naïve suburbanite, nor am I an 'anti-iPoder.' I am actually an avid music listener with quite an eclectic selection of music on my own iPod. During the school year, I myself will bring my iPod with me to the library so that I can mask the whispers while finishing a ten-page paper. I also *must* have my iPod with me while I am running, so that I can get my mind off of the fact that my heart rate often becomes faster than the beat of the song. So trust me, I know that it would be completely foolish to deny that listening to music via headphones and iPods has its perks. But when walking to classes for instance, when you will undoubtedly cross paths with one of your friends, I find it unnecessary to stuff your ears with headphones.

I wonder what the consequences will be of this perpetual plugging of the ears. Are we beginning to suffer from the consequence of silence, the silence that surrounds those of us non-iPoders who just observe those iPoders? *Or* is what we are *really* suffering from the consequence of sound, a sound that only one generation can hear, the generation of the iPod nation?

Overheard

Male at opening barbeque last week: "I wonder if they have more pulled pork over at the kosher table?" (He was being serious.)

Female talking about last night's hook-up: "It was like he was wearing a sweater!"

A sister of a greek society: "I think I'll do more harm than good for recruiting this year."

Man on cell phone in front of Commons: "Please hold...[hums elevator music]...Hello?"

compiled by Ruth Duggan '07
Insights & Ideas Contributor

Game 101

by Francesca Villa '10
Insights & Ideas Columnist

As a freshman girl last year, I often found myself at the annex or in the ELS basement trying to ward off advances from slightly, if not totally, inebriated members of the opposite sex. Most of the time I blamed the cheesy, slurred lines on the ten previous games of Beirut, but as the year went on, I realized that it wasn't that particular game that needed to be blamed, it was those boys' lack of game. So here for you, straight from personal experience is a Do and Don't list to college gaming.

DO: Introduce yourself. If you see someone you are interested in and want to get to know them better, feel free to go up and say hello. Most people are willing to meet new faces, especially in the social atmosphere created by weekend events that serve adult beverages.

DON'T: Stalk people. When you make that first crucial introduction, it is not a good time to inform your new friend that you know his birthday, main interests and have memorized all six Wedding Crashers quotes on his Facebook. Facebook stalking is a common practice (I do it), but it is definitely not an appropriate way to start a relationship. (If the person actually knows your birthday, favorite movie and the girl you are married to, then maybe you're a match made in Facebook heaven).

DO: Use a cheesy pickup line. This may seem counter-intuitive, but if you can pull off a funny line, like, "How much does a polar bear weigh? Enough to break the ice..." then do it! A sense of humor is always appreciated, and it's a good way to show that special someone that you are a witty, fun-loving person. Just remember, pickup lines are intended to be funny, not make the receiver file a restraining order.

DON'T: Use an obnoxious pickup line. This should go without saying, but from experience, I sadly have to mention it. If the only line you have starts with "Nice shoes..." or "What's your sign?" don't use it. Getting slapped in the face usually does not mean the person thought you were funny and wants to hear another "good one".

DO: Be honest. If you like someone, the best way to see if they like you is to open up. This advice differs in every scenario, but if you feel some chemistry and would like to do more "studying" later, then speak up. Seriously, you can never go wrong by putting it out there. If the person is not interested you have saved yourself from getting too attached and from endless hours of clicking through their 134 pictures on Facebook.

DON'T: Be brutally honest. If your intention is to hook up with a member of the opposite sex for any reason that involves the phrase "fresh meat" or "blacked out," think twice and don't scare your prey away with unabashed honesty. Or, even better, wait a few days and see if your Saturday night feelings are as strong on Tuesday morning. It is important to remember that every boy and girl, midrange to upper level, deserves respect even if you have already pounded a 30 of Keystone Ice.

Don't take my advice too literally. It is all in good fun, and hopefully gives some insight into the minds of co-eds on campus. I am by no means a professional, but there are a few "professors of gaming" located in Bundy East who offer a diverse range of classes for interested students. And if none of these suggestions get you laid, don't hate the playa, hate their game.

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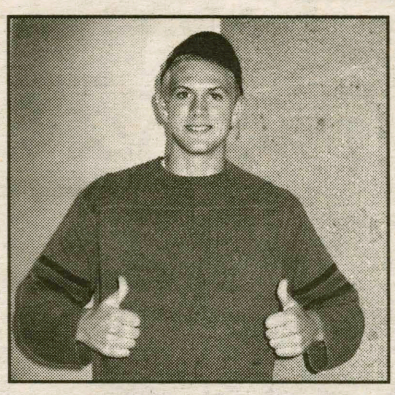
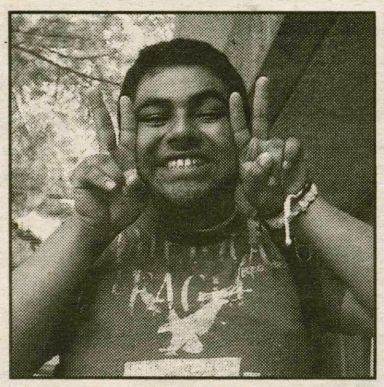
"Omniscience without omnipotence is bogus, so I have to say the clitoris."

Benjamin Alpert '08



"The female form."

Kyle Dumas '09



"Freshmen."

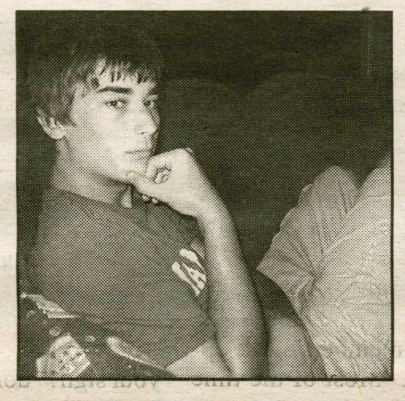
Emerson Sosa '10

Hamilton Unscripted

This week's question:

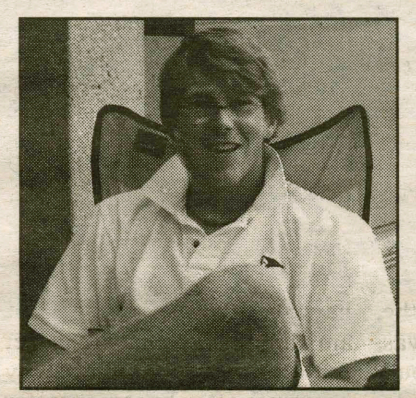
If you could have infinite knowledge of one subject, what would it be?

by Melissa Balding '09



"Biddies."

Jacob Murray '09



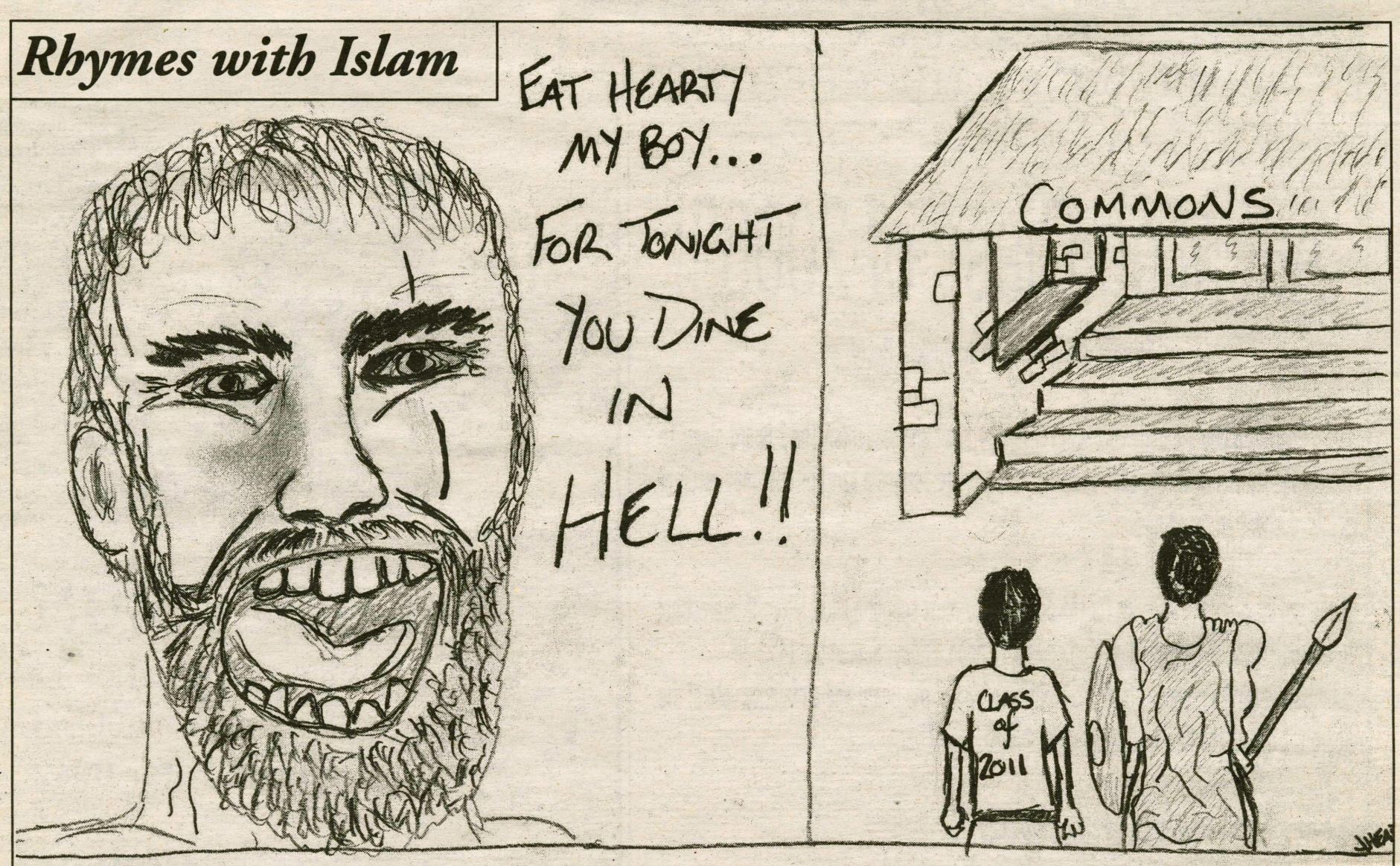
"Besides women?"

John "Scooter" Watkins '10

"I think I got it all covered."

Peter Vickrey '08

Rhymes with Islam



KING LEONIDAS TAKES HIS SON to SCHOOL

by James Head '08 and Matt Linden '08
STAFF CARTOONISTS

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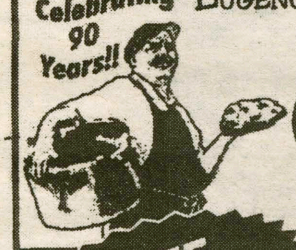

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Team BALCO	Captain: Jon Farber
Team Pleasure Ferret	Captain Henry Ciocca
Team AKA The Seventh Floor Crew	Captain Sam Brookfield
Team Unforgivable	Captain Jordan Fischetti
Team SMJ	Captain Drew Linsley
Team Scott Iseman	Captain Wally Greene

SOFTBALL:

Team Lawn Gnomes	Captain Scott Bickard	A League
Team Off In the Woods	Captain Pat Gennaco	A League
Team Woo Woo	Captain Cam Gaylord	A League
Team Balco Laboratories	Captain Dave Lichtstein	A League
Team DELTAFORCE	Captain John Pew	A League
Team Balls Deep	Captain Bryden Considine	
Team Faust	Captain Emily Devaney-Graham	
Team Freeball	Captain Wally Greene	
Team Carn House	Captain Jack Prior and Quinn Plunkett	
Team Bovice Fan Club	Captain Jon Zellner	
Team Masterbatters	Captain Hillary Keating	

SOCCER:

Team FC Oneida	Captain Nico Drohojowski	A League
Team Del Mundo	Captain Ngoda Manongi	A League
Team Billy the Fish FC	Captain Griffin Kenyon	A League
Team Bad Newz Kennels	Captain Michael Marcal	A League
Team FC Awesome	Captain Jarrod Burton	A League
Team The Scrappers	Captain Christina Magro	A League
Team Barely Legal	Captain Daniel Bond	
Team Scott Iseman	Captain Wally Greene	
Team Awesome	Captain Jane Barnes	
Team Kilombos	Captain Sarah Cornblath	
Team Henry Lee	Captain Henry Lee	
Team Nogomet	Captain Katie Giuliano	
Strike Team	Captain Katie Goodwin	
Team Real Hotpants United	Captain Hillary Keating	
Team Scrappy Seniors	Captain Matt D'Amico	
Team Literates	Captain Sam Hincks	
Team Jenna	Captain Jillian Berkowitz	
Team Al Ham FBC	Captain Liz Carty	
Team Ham Tec United	Captain Katie McGuire	
Team Sidekick	Captain Yoshihiko Kubota	
Team Dirty South	Captain Becca Green	

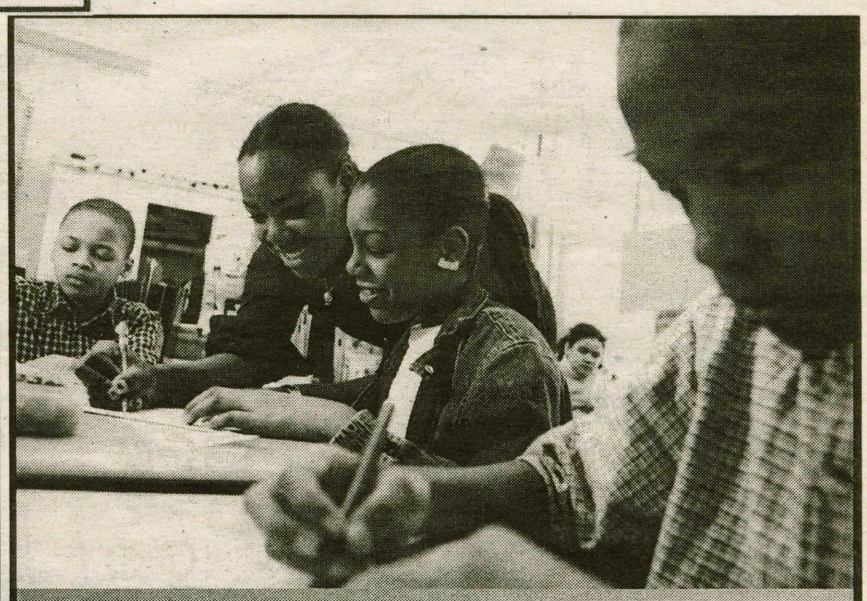
Attention Class of 2008!!!

There is one vacancy on the Judicial Board.

The J-Board is a hearing body consisting of faculty, staff and students. The J-Board meets to review alleged violations of policy and when appropriate assigns a sanction that may result in points, suspension, or expulsion.

If you are interested in applying for the position you must submit a short letter of interest not to exceed 1 page to jlandry@hamilton.edu by 12 noon, Friday, September 14th. All submissions will be reviewed by the current members of the Board and a majority vote of the Board will decide the new board member.

Questions: Caitlin McGilley cmcgille@hamilton.edu



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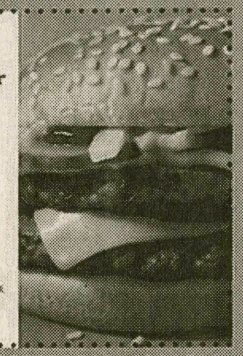

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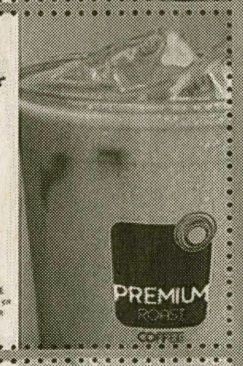

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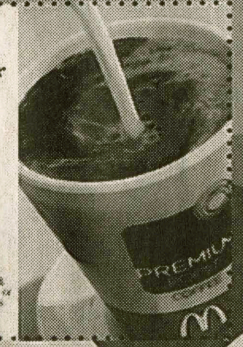

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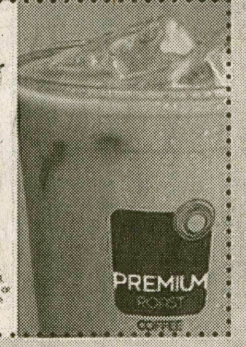

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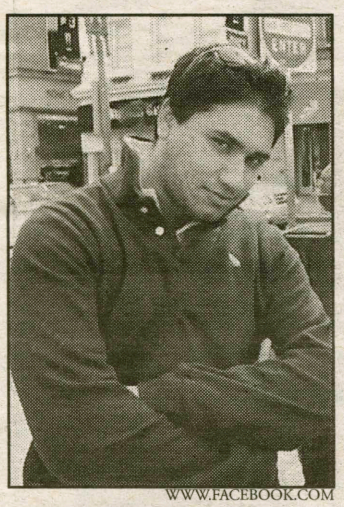
From Where I Sit: *A Senior Comes Back to the Hill*

By Murtaza Ali Jafri '08
FEATURES WRITER



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM

Za is an international student from Pakistan.

Coming back to Hamilton as a returning senior can be a daunting experience, especially having spent the past year off campus. The common consensus appears to be that it feels 'weird'. Some returning seniors fresh off their summer internships feel ready to immediately shove off and tackle post-Hamilton life, while others are glad to be back in their comfort zone of the hill. I find it odd readjusting to campus life when I've has been on my own for an extended period.

A lot can change in that year one may go abroad, half the student body turns over, and one's upperclassman friends graduate. The freshman acceptance rate further shrinks and in this particular year, Hamilton decides to gut KJ in the name of progress.

Getting re-acquainted with old friends, possibly making new ones, figuring out thesis topics and the dreaded job search/grad school applications are a few of the items that demand the attention of a returning senior. Some are lucky with employment offers from their summer internships, but mostly the impending doom of the rat race approaches. With all that in mind, senior year is the final stage to say goodbye, and thank you to Hamilton for the memories.

What shocks Hamilton students the most consistently is when I tell them that one of the major things I missed about Hamilton was Commons dining hall. The comforts of dining hall food at Hamilton seemed all the more ridiculous when memories of the semester-long exclusive consumption of cereal and Ramen noodles come to mind. Having eaten on several other college campuses, I have to admit that Hamilton cuisine outstrips them all (I include Opus in that assessment). Hamilton dining options make day-to-day life hassle free.

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Seniors will soon say good bye college life and all of its many benefits, including Commons dining.

The biggest worry one has as a student is getting 'good' grades (results may vary) and avoiding unfortunate incidents with Campus Safety (again, results may vary). The police on the other hand, do not distribute points (though admittedly, the valuable skill set acquired from my time dealing with Campus Safety in Milbank has proven to be most useful).

Grades on the other hand seem completely irrelevant especially when you leave to start your career, unless a form of graduate school is on your horizon.

I like to think that returning seniors come back to Hamilton with a greater appreciation of the resources of the college. Sadly, these resources are only recognized when we come close to losing them, especially thinking back on all of the opportunities that have been afforded to us. We all remember the great professors who inspire us to our majors and make us believe in ourselves. However, administrators, health care professionals, physical plant staff, and others go sadly un-appreciated; it is their hard work that is fundamental to making Hamilton the institution that it is, making the professors' lives easier and ours smoother. So from all of us, thank you for the memories, good, bad and the ones we lack the capability to remember, it makes senior year all the more special.

"From Where I sit" is the ESOL column that presents the non-native English Speaker's point of view on his or her American college experience. If you have a "From Where I Sit" story that you would like to share, please e-mail adragan.

A Summer Nobly Spent: Hamilton Student Volunteers in Kenya

By Gabriela Frias '10
FEATURES WRITER

You will see many children from varied backgrounds, most whom are rehabilitated street children, playing soccer or eagerly posing for the camera. They were taken off the streets after years of not knowing what a good home was or having a proper meal. Some even abused drugs. These are young boys and girls, ages three to sixteen, who, when you see and interact with them, appear to have not suffered from any mistreatment or maladies.

That's what Sarah (Sally) Powell '09 experienced when she studied abroad and volunteered in Kenya this summer.

Through VIDCA, a cultural exchange program based in Nairobi, Kenya, Powell, a double major in biology and geosciences, was placed and lived in a small nameless village near the Ngong Hills and Kikuyu (village) of Kenya.

Prior to her travels to Kenya, Powell participated in a geological field study in Tasmania, so she was used to being away from home. But her adjustment to Kenya was a challenge, not because it was away from home, but because of the lifestyle and culture. She stayed for approximately six weeks at Sons of Manaseh, a children's home that offered food, shelter and schooling for children who were either abandoned, abused or living on the streets. It offers a way of life for poor children in a place where adoptions do not occur.

Powell had the liberty to start her own program, building an initiative that has helped the children at the home experience a better life, and to actually have an existence. "I spent a great deal of time designing and filling out case file forms for the kids," said Powell, "so as to have a written family, behavioral, abuse, and medical history, as previously complete records did not exist. If something happened to one of the [undocumented] children, no one would know since they don't have papers saying that they exist."

PHOTO COURTESY OF SALLY POWELL '09

The children Sally worked with were welcoming and joyful despite the tragic expriences they shared.

Powell's recount of her trip to Kenya was filled with her compassion and determination for the children and the goals she had set upon arrival in Kenya. Three times a week she would teach math, English and physical education at a primary school in Kenya as a side activity while the children from the home went to a different school. As the first volunteer for the Sons of Manaseh Children's Home, Powell didn't have an ordinary day.

"Every day was a new adventure either at the home, the school, or on town visits," said Powell. "Being the first volunteer at the home, I was very much in charge of creating my own objectives and project schedules."

She tackled issues such as a lack of running water, food, clothes, bedding and toilets by applying to NGO's. She collaborated with the director of the home and wrote a 25-page proposal over the course of a week and a half to provide a budget overview to UNICEF. A wait of three hours at the UNICEF headquarters was not in vain; the proposal was successful in getting the funding needed.

Being fully emerged in another culture, Powell lived in poverty and in the slums, and adjusted herself to the ways of life of those around her, which she says is a valuable and memorable experience. With a year of Swahili study at Hamilton, Powell was able to have conversations with the children and locals, often having to pronounce the American names similarly to how they would say it.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SALLY POWELL '09

Sally adjusted herself to the way of life of the people around her.

"Kenya is a beautiful country. All the people I would meet were so welcoming and warm. They were joyful despite any conditions they were in," said Powell.

Though Powell was in great spirits, there were moments of discouragement. The hardest part, she said, was working with children that had horrible and tragic experiences. One of the hardest cases she dealt with was that of a 10-year-old girl who was raped by her cousin and beaten by her brother mercilessly. "Because it's something you don't encounter in the everyday, and not having experience or background working with a child with those types of issues, it [becomes] hard," she explained. But Powell didn't let herself get discouraged by the trauma each child faced. She cited Gandhi's famous quote, "be the change in the world that you want to see," to describe her overall attitude when faced with challenges and her faith in being that change the children were looking for.

"There are so many things about your life that you won't discover in the classroom. I strongly believe in stretching yourself in where you go, who you spend your time with, and stepping out of your comfort zone. That's where you are really going to figure out who you are and what you desire to do."

At the moment, Powell will follow up with UNICEF about the funding progress and contact the new volunteers who took her place to see how they are faring.

"Now, I'm a lot of more conscious of the privileges here and how different it is, and how easy life is here in a lot of respects," said Powell. "I respected other international students, but now I have more admiration for those that come here to study."

Hamilton Students in Tanzania for Summer Research

By Emily Gerston '11
Features Writer

Any geologist can tell you that there is interesting geology almost everywhere in the world. But last summer, 14 students, Geology Professor Eugene Domack and Associate Professor of Philosophy Katheryn Doran didn't settle for the rock formations of upstate New York. Instead, they travelled to Tasmania for a two week journey that combined geology, biology, philosophy and environmental ethics.

"To take a trip to a completely foreign country with a totally different geology was awesome," said Julia MacDougall '09. "It was my first time out of the country."

"For most of us, it was about as far away as we could possibly get from here," added Cody Westphal '08.

Their trip was almost spoiled before it even began. "At JFK our flight was supposed to leave at 7, but we had a five-hour delay because someone threatened to blow up the fuel tanks or something," described Alyssa Kanagaki '10. "But we didn't know what was going on, so we just talked, played games, watched movies."

Their trip just to get to Tasmania took more than a full day, consisting of a five-hour flight from New York to Los Angeles, a 22 hour trip from Los Angeles to Sydney, Australia, and a two-hour flight from Sydney to Hobart, Tasmania, the main city on the island. "We [had] to get up and walk a lot. Otherwise, you get clots in your legs," said MacDougall. They also kept busy on the long flights with booklets distributed before the flight containing information on the local flora and fauna.

Once on the island, their work began. Instead of going to geology institutes and being lectured by professors and researchers, the students taught each other and did their own research. "Each student specialized in a certain day," explained Kanagaki. "You had to research things of geological significance, the botany, different aspects of your day, and you had to become an expert on it. It was really interesting to find out information from the students themselves rather than the professors."

"We'd drive long distances in our vans, explore a little bit, get an intense 20 minute lecture from whomever was presenting," added MacDougall. "We'd either go diving for certain types of minerals or go looking for dropstones," which are small pieces of rock embedded in much larger sedimentary rock.

"It's a big difference between being lectured about geology and actually seeing it," MacDougall explained further. "There's a lot of information about where to go and find things, but it's so different to actually go out and do it."

"I got to hold fossils that were 22 million years old, and that was just amazing to hold something that old," described Kanagaki.

They also had access to places and information that most tourists don't get."We got to tour the Center for Antarctic Research, and things that as regular tourists we wouldn't have been able to see," said Westphal.

"[Professor]Gene[Domack] had gotten us an all-park pass, and we got to see nearly every national park," added Kimberly Roe'08. "We were more or less alone. There weren't any tourists, and we got to look around."

The group traveled all over the island and covered all types of terrain. "We started out at the Botanical Gardens. That was pretty leisurely and planned out," recalled Kanagaki. "The next day we climbed Mt. Wellington, and that was pretty rigorous – but worth it. Some of us weren't avid hikers, but you kind of have to force yourself to the top."

The Painted Cliffs was one of their stops on the trip. "They're these sandstone cliffs, and it's just unreal how beautiful this place was," described Westphal.

"It's just sandstone that's been carved away by the ocean and left to rust," which leaves lines in varying shades of oranges, reds and browns on the rock, said Roe.

According to Kanagaki, it wasn't just the Painted Cliffs that blew them away. "The landscape here is just unlike anything I've ever seen before. It covers a lot of different climate areas too."

"Every time I'd look out the window, I was not familiar with any of the vegetation," added Roe.

"It was really cool because we got to see such drastically different environments in one day," remarked Westphal. "Variety in an area within a one day drive [included] rainforest, desert, mountains."

With the changing environments came different weather. "It was weird because it would rain and then be sunny," recalled MacDougall.

Although there were a few instances of rain, Kanagaki said the weather wasn't an issue. "Usually Tasmania is really cloudy and rainy, but we had perfect weather most of the time."

Discussions on environmental ethics also consumed a large chunk of the students' time. "We… did a lot of talking from an environmental standpoint," added Westphal. "It's a really interesting argument for the area."

"What's happening in Tasmania right now is a lot of logging," explained Kanagaki. "They're debating how to treat the wild… [The residents] don't want it destroyed, but they're trying to increase tourism."

What astounded Kanagaki was how accessible the trip was to people with even very little geological experience. "The good thing about this trip is you didn't have to be a geology major to go on it. You needed one course in geology or philosophy, but that's it."

According to Professor Domack, who was one of the trip's leaders, the trip is held every other year and will be offered again in the summer of 2009.

"The setup of this trip was really amazing," concluded Kanagaki. "This helped me decide to major in geology. Before, I had been pretty undecided, but this trip made me realize I wanted to pursue geology further."

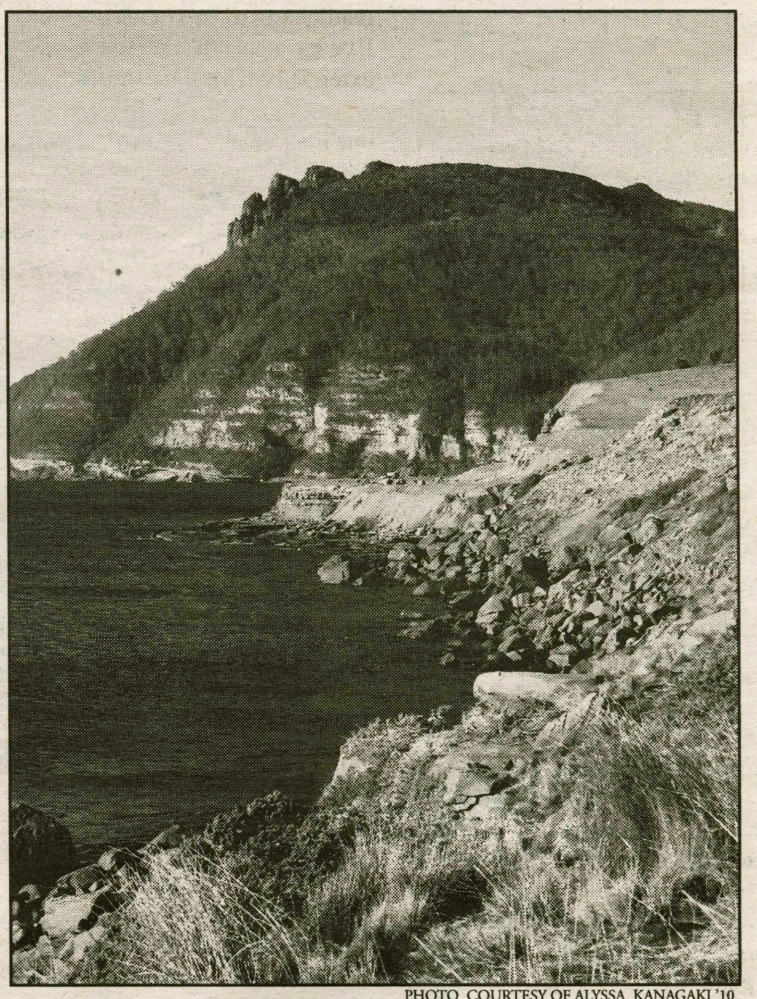


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALYSSA KANAGAKI '10

These 14 Hamilton Students didn't settle for the rock formations in New York but headed for something a bit more interesting.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALYSSA KANAGAKI '10

Tanzania's unfamiliar vegetation astounded students.

Lotions and Potions: A Beauty Manifesto

By Elizabeth Kosar '10
Beauty Columnist

I am writing this manifesto in response to some criticism that I have received that beauty is shallow and creates an unhealthy image for women. Beauty is legitimate. The definition of what is beautiful ranges from culture to culture, and from person to person but at the end of the day, how a person looks does matter.

Your appearance can be used to express all sorts of things, like an appreciation for the 40s (red lipstick and dark brows) or a distaste for consumerism by going bare (but chances are you've still washed your face and bought something to do that with). Maybe you have really bad acne and concealer helps you go out into the world and think about issues other than the painful red bumps on your face.

Appearances are valid, and caring about what message your looks send should not be bad thing. You are not a doormat, anti-feminist if you love eyeshadow. It's an art- instead of painting on a canvas, you are painting on your face. It seems sad that we have to justify something that can bring a lot of pleasure.

Yes, I understand that the beauty industry is an industry. They want to make a profit. I also understand that women can feel forced to look a certain way because of beauty magazines. That stinks, but why not read InStyle, Allure, and Lucky not to try to be exactly like the women in their pages but to get inspiration? All I'm saying is that I'm not advocating rigid rules about how you should look. Beauty can and should be fun.

WWW.GOOGLE.COM

Beauty is legitimate; acquiring it through beauty products should not need justification.

NYC: *Good Things Come To Those Who Walk*

By Bianca Dragan '10
FEATURES EDITOR

The Hamilton Community has a long history of involvement in fundraising projects like Relay for Life, fighting against cancer, and AIDS Hike for Life, fighting to reduce the spread of HIV and to help people with HIV maintain and improve their health and independence. Just because it is not right around the corner, the Hamilton Community should not refuse the chance to participate in the fight against breast cancer by joining the Avon Walk for Breast Caner in New York City on October 6-7.

The Walk is one of the Breast Cancer Crusade projects that involves a series of weekend fundraising events launched in 2003 to raise as much money as possible to provide access to care and fund research leading to a cure. The Crusade's motto (*Good things come to those who walk*) denies an option when we're talking about cancer – the wait. Waiting is not acceptable when numbers say that every three minutes in the U.S. a person is diagnosed with breast cancer. Waiting doesn't make good things happen. Instead, the walk advocates commitment, action and hope.

WWW.GOOGLE.COM

On October 6-7, the Breast Cancer Walk offers a choice of a marathon (26.2 miles) or a marathon and a half (39.3 miles) over a weekend in New York City.

First, the walk is commitment. The Breast Cancer Walk is one of the Crusade projects that involves a series of weekend fundraising events launched in 2003 to raise as much money as possible to provide access to care and to fund research leading to a cure for breast cancer. This is why every walker commits to raising a minimum of $1,800 to help in the fight against breast cancer. This is obviously a lot and walkers need help in getting the money. You can help by letting the people around you know about the project and the walker and by convincing them to donate money.

Second, the walk is action. You can either volunteer, be a crew member or a walker. The Walk offers a choice of a marathon (26.2 miles) or a marathon and a half (39.3 miles) over a weekend. You can walk as much as you can.

Last, the walk is hope. The Breast Cancer Crusade, launched in 1992, supports breast cancer programs in more than 50 countries. Since its founding, $450 million worldwide has been raised and donated for access to care and finding a cure for breast cancer, with a focus on the medically underserved. Funding supports five areas: awareness and education; screening and diagnosis; treatment; support services; and scientific research. The beneficiaries range from leading cancer centers to community-based non-profit breast health programs trying to defeat breast cancer and ensure access to care.

If you would like to help or talk to a walker, you can contact Professor Britt-Hysell (*bbritthy*). This year's breast cancer walk will be her fourth.

Online Shopping:Key Pieces for Fall

by Fenglin Zhao '10
FEATURES WRITER

Six years ago, I moved to tropical Singapore. Blame the hot weather, I spent the next five years looking at girls wearing tank tops and low cut jeans, everywhere. A year ago, I came to the states. Deluded and misinformed by " Sex And The City," I was thrilled to see a more diverse fashion scene. Blame the Clinton weather, after six months of snow, I dread nothing more than North Face fleece jackets and Ugg boots. (Don't get me wrong, I love them just as much). I was telling my friend the other day that now if I see someone on Martin's Way, who has apparently put a little more effort in dressing up, I would really like go up to that person, shake his or her hand and say: " Thank you."

Tired of dressing generically and want to spice up your closet a little before winter sets in? Check out the Spectator's key pieces for fall.

1. A Knitted or Textured Short Jacket

Short jackets are huge. Compared to a college sweat shirt, it can be more versatile. Match it with every single tank top you own, jeans, and skirts. You can also accessorize a bit by adding your personal favorite big necklace or wide belt.

Splurge: Marc by Marc Jacobs, Soft Herringbone Stripe jacket

Price: $298 (free ground shipping everyday)
Link: www.shopbop.com/

Steal:Esprit trench jacket

Price: $79.50 (during the labor day sale if you type in code labor07 good through September 10th) : 64
Link: www.espritshop.com/

2. A Tunic

A tunic is where the money is. Wear it with hose if you have been working out all summer, or leggings when it gets colder. It's good for both eating in commons and going to parties.

Splurge: French Connection

Silk silver lurex tunic

Writer's note: heads up, silver sequins is also in style this fall. You can wear it as evening dress and look totally stunning.

Price: $168
Link: www.bloomingdales.com/

Steal : Forever 21 Knit Tunic
Price: $19.80
Link: www.forever21.com

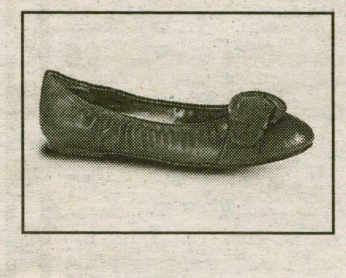
3. Flats:

'07 Fall trends emphasize a sophisticated look. While high heels seem less practical for going to class, flats definitely add a vantage elegance to your outfit. Imagine what a difference it would make to accomplish your look with a pair of mary janes compared to crocs or flip flops.

Splurge: Hugo Boss " Catalina" flats

Price: $111.90
Link: www.nordstrom.com/

Steal : Floy red flats



Price : $29.90
link: http://journeys.com/

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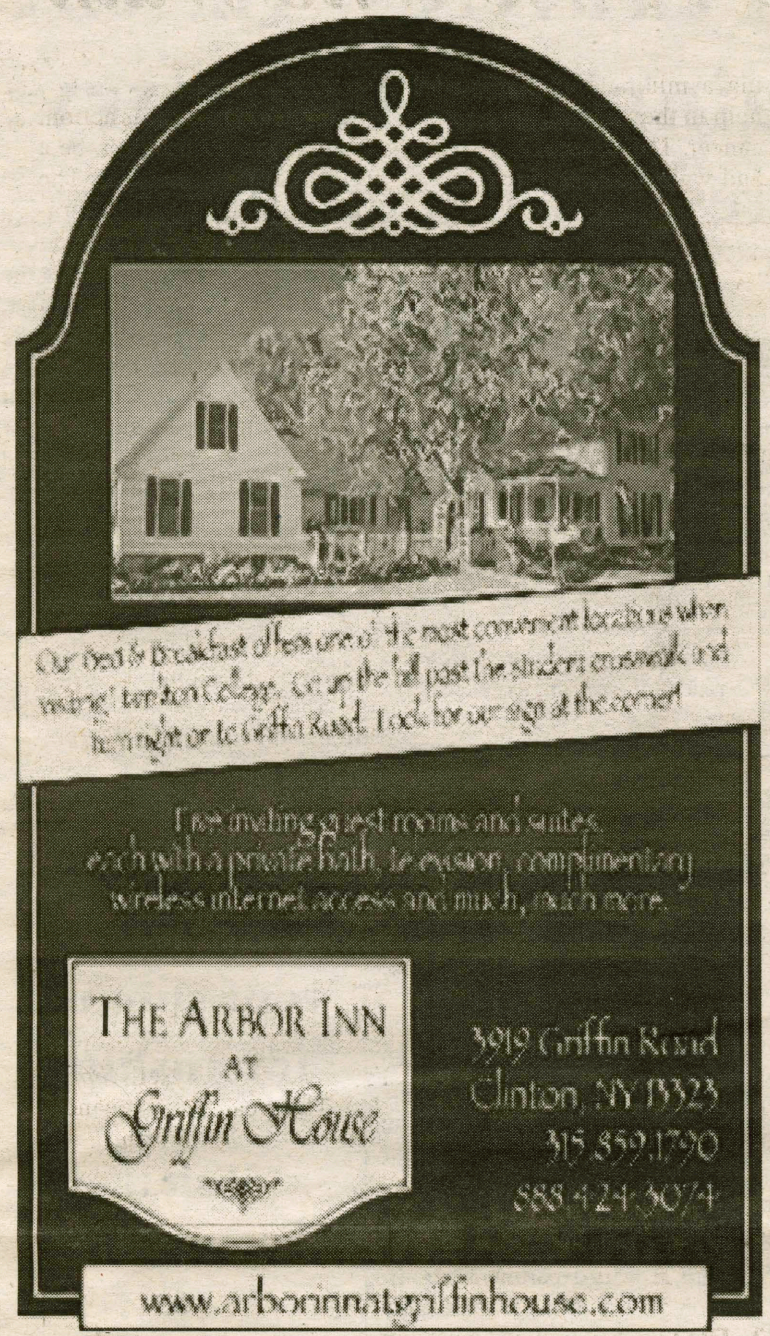
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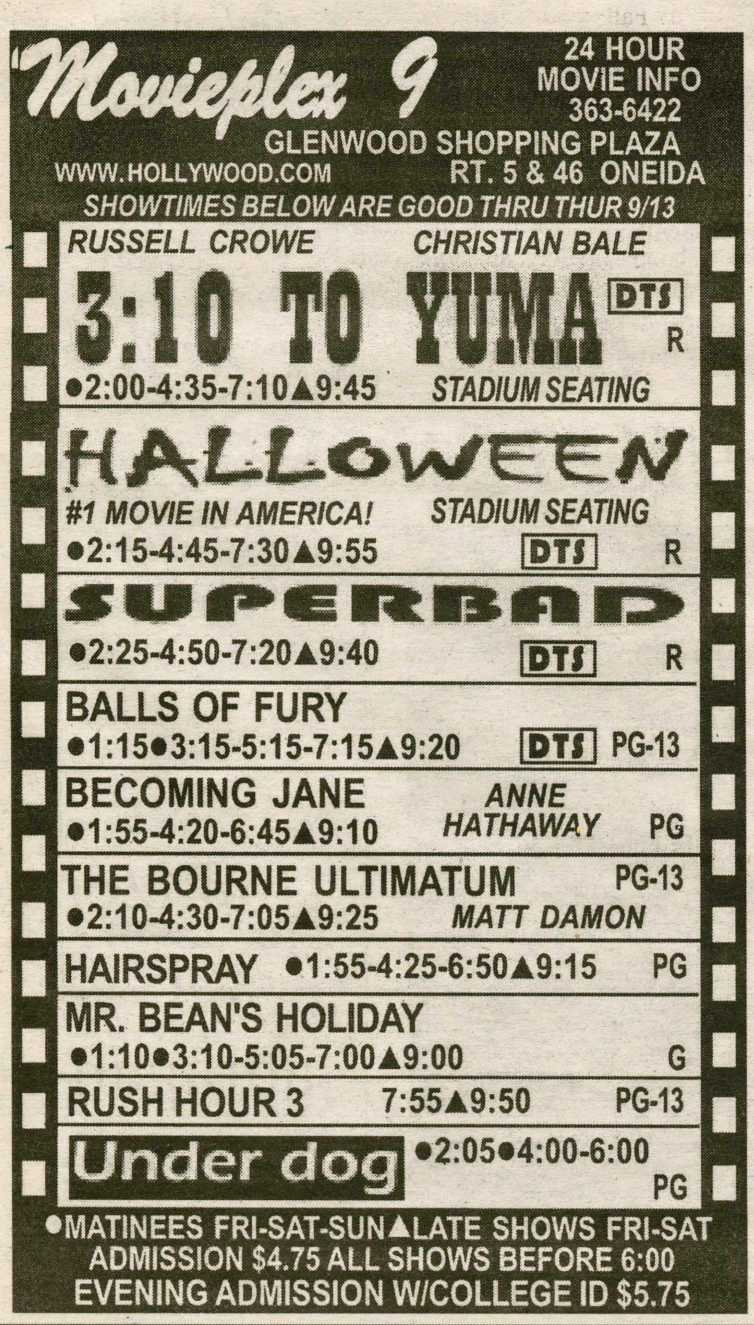

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Weekly Charts

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

MUSIC
(From iTunes)

Top Albums
1. High School Musical 2 - Soundtrack
2. Magic - Bruce Springsteen
3. Coco - Colbie Caillat
4. Live At Radio City - Dave Matthews & Tim Reynolds
5. The Altar and the Door - Casting Crowns

Top Songs
1. Stronger - Kanye West
2. Crank That - Soulja Boy Tell 'Em
3. Rockstar - Nickelback
4. S.O.S. - Jonas Brothers
5. Beautiful Girls - Sean Kingston

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Box Office Charts)
1. Halloween
2. Superbad
3. Balls of Fury
4. The Bourne Ultimatum
5. Rush Hour 3
6. Mr. Bean's Holiday
7. The Nanny Diaries
8. Death Sentence
9. War
10. Stardust

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction
1. WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, by Sara Gruen
2. THE KITE RUNNER, by Khaled Hosseini
3. THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER, by Kim Edwards
4. THE EMPEROR'S CHILDREN, by Claire Messud
5. ECHO PARK, by Michael Connelly

Paperback Non-Fiction
1. EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert
2. 90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN, by Don Piper with Cecil Murphey
3. THE GLASS CASTLE, by Jeannette Walls
4. THE WORLD IS FLAT, by Thomas L. Friedman
5. NIGHT, by Elie Wiesel

Summer Opportunities in the Arts and Entertainment Industry:

Jen Vano '09 Shares Her Experience

by Jessica Owens '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As many of us know, securing the perfect summer internship is a long and tedious process. It requires countless hours of soul searching to narrow our interests and pinpoint our passions, and then countless more hours of researching, writing cover letters, making phone calls, etc. Of course, once you find an interesting internship (hopefully one that pays), there's no guarantee that it'll be anything like you had predicted. Either way, you've gained experience and made inroads into better understanding yourself and your personal goals after graduating.

For some of us, finding an internship isn't a big deal because of our personal connections or a stroke of fate. However, for the majority, including Jen Vano '09, it didn't come easy. This summer, Jen interned at both Capitol Records and MTV Studios, but didn't secure either internship until the very last days of school. Having been stressed about her summer plans, Jen described it as a 'serendipitous' moment when the pieces finally fell into place.

"Start looking for your internship now!" She warns. "The sooner the better."

After speaking with Jen, I found that she was one of the lucky few who loved her jobs, at both Capitol Records and MTV, and hopes to return next summer to further her connections. In this personal interview, Jen elucidates her experience.

Jess: ***What exactly did you do this summer?***

Jen: At MTV, I worked in book publishing, helping to facilitate the entire process from written content to art to new ideas for future books. My managers looked to me for a fresh perspective, and I was always busy. At Capitol Records, I worked in the strategic marketing departing branding artists. For example, in one project, we partnered Starting Line with STA Travel, a student travel sight.

Jess: ***Wow! It seems like you know exactly what you're interested in. How did you get such great internships?***

Jen: I literally spent hours and hours doing online research. At that time, I vaguely knew I wanted to work in entertainment, so I made a list of the different industries and familiar companies off the top of my head. Then I visited the companies' websites to see if they offered internship opportunities. As far as choosing specific departments to work in, I found that there's a lot of competition, so you're lucky with whatever you end up with. On the other hand, the departments are interrelated, so I got to witness the inner workings of each.

Jess: ***What types of people did you interact with?***

Jen: Execs, daily. Entertainment is an open forum, so they're visible, throwing around new ideas. I also got to interact with the talent; in this industry, you need to always be prepared and know how to handle yourself because you never know what people you'll run into. For example, once I ran into SWAY and he asked me where the billiards table was. The talent is always coming up to you, asking questions.

Jess: ***I understand that both internships were unpaid. How did you deal with the expenses?***

Jen: I live close, so I commuted. I packed a lunch everyday, and I didn't go out as often on the weekends. You have to be prepared to make some sacrifices. I would also recommend applying for Hamilton funding. I didn't, because I missed the deadline, but it's out there.

Jess: ***You're a creative writing major. Do you think it is important to major in something specific to what you might want to do after college?***

Jen: It doesn't really matter. I think in every department at Hamilton, you're going to gain skills that you can apply to whatever you do after college.

Jess: ***Do you have any valuable advice to offer?***

Jen: It's important to set yourself a part from other interns. I was constantly meeting new people, so I would ask them questions about their jobs and follow up with an email to maintain the connection. It's all about taking the next step. I would also suggest, that wherever you work, make sure you like the product. I was stoked about working at Capitol Records because I loved a lot of their artists. If you're interested in the product, it makes the job so much more fun.

Jess: ***Thanks for your time, Jen.***

Jen: No problem.

It's never too early to get a jumpstart on your summer internships.

Visit the Career Center or www.hamilton.edu/college/career to start looking for an internship today.

Shakespeare's The Tempest Comes to The Hill This Weekend

by Jennifer Vano '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

If you are lucky enough to have seen one of Untitled @ Large's annual Fall Shakespeare productions in the past, you know that they are always utterly impressive, undeniably unique, and, well, outright hilarious.

This weekend, get ready for Shakespeare's "The Tempest," which director Randi Rivera '08 describes as "funny, magical revenge, full of surprises." So, for the performance, bring a friend and a picnic, and bask in the setting's natural beauty while watching this performance by talented and wacky students whose love for the play is sure to be contagious. And, if that's not reason enough to attend, the show is free!

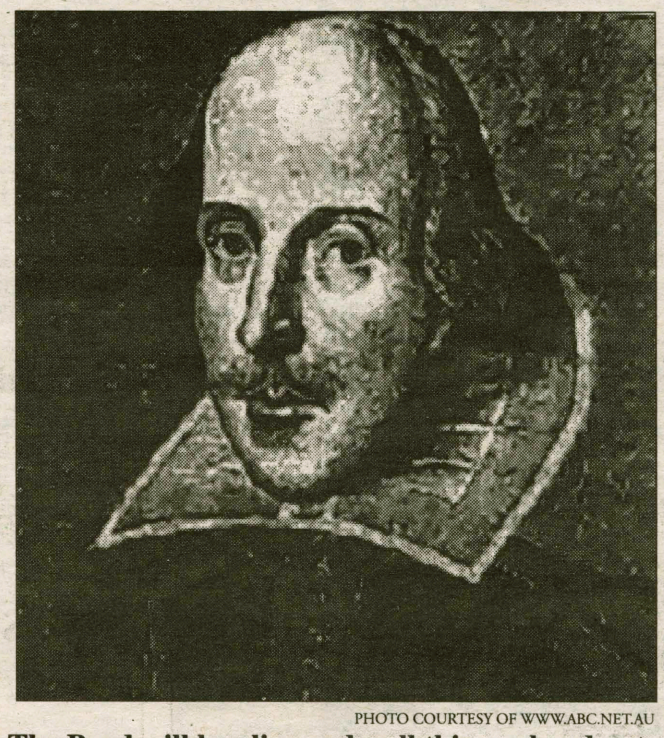

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.ABC.NET.AU

The Bard will be alive and well this weekend outside of Bristol, courtesy of Untitled @ Large.

Untitled @ Large's "The Tempest" Saturday and Sunday 4 p.m.

Outside of Bristol (In case of rain: The Chapel)

Get there early and bring sunglasses!

The Idiot Box 101

Television Review: Season One of Torchwood

by Rachel Frazier '09
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Torchwood may be a *Doctor Who* spinoff, but that's pretty much where the similarities end. *Doctor Who* is a family show where sex is only alluded to in innuendo; they will not even admit that the Doctor is in love. *Torchwood* is more mature--if your definition of "mature" pretty much means expotentially "more:" more sex, more violence, and more swearing. It's a teenage boy's wet dream of a show, and it's downright addictive too.

For starters, Captain Jack Harkness, the dastardly sexual beast who from season one of *Doctor Who*, heads up the Torchwood team. Torchwood is a top-secret extra-governmental agency for policing alien activity in Cardiff, Wales. (Season one of *Torchwood* coincides with season three of *Doctor Who*, so the Doctor only left Jack a year ago, but Jack has lived over one-hundred years since then, trapped on a long road through Earth's history. Just so you know.)

He's not the same Jack as before, with much more angst and slightly less camp than before his first death by means of the blasters of the Daleks. Turns out, being immortal and un-killable really takes it out of a guy. Still, he's Jack, and that's the important bit.

We see Torchwood through the eyes of the character Gwen Cooper, introduced in the first episode as a sort of likeable girl whom the men adore.

She's a constable in Cardiff, has a nice, stable, Welsh boyfriend, and simply exudes working-class Welsh charm. Somewhere between a caricature and a stereotype, however, Gwen fails at being the connecting piece she is intended to be. Rather, it is the other characters (Tosh, Owen and Ianto), who truely connect with the audience. Gwen brings a much needed normality to Torchwood, true, but it's Gwen's eyes that see the alien as normal that really engage the audience.

Unfortunately, it is Gwen's generality and broadness of appeal that makes her difficult to relate to. The others each have something specific to recommend them. Tosh has a certain vulnerability peeking out from the corners of her face. She's strong, amd you know she's strong, but glimpses of Tosh's insecurity lend a realism to the character.

Similarly, Owen is just pissed off. Not really at anything specific, Owen is pissed off in a general sense—underneath that "good old lad" exterior he's angry at the world.

And then there's Ianto. Oh, Ianto. Ianto has his secrets, like the robot girlfriend he's hiding in the basement, or his ability to let the scent of pain waft away from him. It is these secrets that make us connect with Ianto. He is sad, and sadness is an emotion which we can all really connect with.

And then there's the gay. Oh, the gay.

As a BBC show, *Torchwood* has fewer strictures on it than most American shows. Hence the gay. Now, I may be a slasher at heart (and in other places), but I don't have to slash this show. It slashes itself. First, there's Owen being gay in the first episode, then there's Jack harassing Ianto. Jack is one giant combination of gay, bi, omni, and just plain sexual. In episode four, Jack and Ianto kiss. In episode eight, they wallow in sexual tension, until Ianto propositions Jack (there's a stopwatch involved). Episode twelve is quite literally all gay. The plot of the episode is a gay love story. Whee! The season finale, at last has a nice, sweet kiss between Ianto and Jack...in front of everyone. It's a pretty darn gay show.

And then there's the cheese. Oh, the cheese.

Torchwood is fun, but it's also really awful. It's a paragon of cheese, and a palace of crap--a great shrine to bad television.

The Torchwood base is the most impractical base ever created by a group of geeks. It's pretty much a Welsh batcave. I mean, they have a pterodactyl that nests in there. In fact, there is a blissful scene wherein a pterodactyl fights against a cyberwoman. And the cyberwoman has been doused in barbecue sauce. There's something to be said for bad television, and Torchwood says it all. Seriously, it will melt your brain with the bad, but it will also make you scream with joy at the good, the awesome and the geekily fantastic.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.SFX.CO.UK

Oh, those crazy Brits have done it again with sci-fi/adventure show, *Torchwoood.*

Visit www.idiot-box 101.livejournal.com to read more reviews.

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Events this weekend:

Friday: Photographs by Silvia Saunders (10am-5pm)
Campus Life Open House (12-4pm)

Saturday: SKFilms presents: WET, HOT, AMERICAN SUMMER (TBA)
Photographs by Silvia Saunders
The Tempest by William Shakespeare (4-5:30pm)

Sunday: SKFilms presents: WET, HOT, AMERICAN SUMMER (TBA)
Photographs by Silvia Saunders
The Tempest by William Shakespeare (4-5:30pm)

Entertaining Things from the World of Entertainment

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Jodi Foster will star in *The Brave One*, opening September 14. In this movie, Foster plays a woman who becomes a vigilante after witnessing her fiance's brutal murder. I think the more important question here is, "how does Jodi Foster not AGE?"

General Hospital's Annie Wersching will star opposite Keifer Sutherland in next season's *24*. She will play an FBI agent who is far too pretty for terrorist fighting and will hopefully get maimed in the second hour to get some street cred (yo).

Horror-flick director Rob Zombie claims he will not be remaking any more Michael Meyers movies, and he might not make any more horror movies either. He will shave, get a hair cut, move to France, and begin to film chick-flicks... once he's done rolling in all the money he made off of his recent remake of *Halloween*.

R. Kelly's child pornography trial was postponed after the lead prosecutor gave birth. I think irony handles this one all on it's own....

BBC's *Dr. Who* will take a two-year break because actor David Tennant will be doing work with the Royal Shakespeare Company. You mean I have to wait two years for my British sci-fi because Tennant wants to pretend he's a "real" actor?!?

A recent study found that rock stars are more likely to die prematurely than the general population. We really needed a STUDY for that?

Victoria Beckham (aka Posh Spice) will guest star on *Ugly Betty* as someone's bridesmaid. It will he her first acting role on U.S. prime-time television, and it will probably be more exciting than David's first U.S. appearance.

Kelly Clarkson will embark on a fall theatre tour this October after cancelling her arena tour due to slow ticket sales. The tour will begin at Upstate New York's own Turning Stone Casino. Carpooling, anyone?

© No celebrities went into rehab (or attempted suicide) this week, giving Amy Winehouse time to think about copyrighting her song title. Now she can get paid everytime Lindsay, Britney, and friends go back to rehab and need a theme-song.

Quentin Tarantino is set to film an old school kung fu movie. Spoiler: everyone dies.

CAB Concert? Oh, I'm There

by Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

What's better than a CAB concert? A CAB concert performed underneath the stars. Last Friday night, CAB brought Barefoot Truth and Clarias to campus where they performed on the back porch of the Glen House.

Barefoot Truth began in the summer of 2004 when singer-songwriter Will Benoit and lead guitarist Jay Driscoll randomly met. In the beginning the band was simply known as "Barefoot," a name suggested by a concert audience member because they performed with no shoes. In early 2006, however, they added "Truth" to their name because of an existing boy band by the same name.

A seven track demo entitled *Barefoot* was released in the fall of 2004, and after a successful response, they began recording their full-length CD *Changes in the Weather* the following winter. This CD was released in June 2005, and in January of 2006, they recorded a six song EP entitled *Club House Sessions*. Their latest CD, *Walk Softly,* will be released at the end of September.

It was in the summer of 2006 that the band added Andy Wrba, a standing bassist who infused the already rich and organic folk music with jazz. Also at the concert Friday night was sometimes harmonica player Garrett "G-Cup" Duffy. Will, Jay, and Andy are sometimes joined by Wes Smith, percussionist; Ashley Spitale, backup vocals; and Christopher St. Louis, soundboard wizard.

The porch of the Glen House set an intimate setting for the concert, and although people were initially shy to start, the band definitely got people dancing. Duffy actually joined in on the dancing for one of the songs. The band played some songs from *Changes in the Weather* such as "Roll If Ya Fall," but the majority of the songs came from *Walk Softly*, which included "Tresspasser," "Broken Road," "Reelin,'" "Guy Holmes," and "Walk Softly."

Will, the lead singer, is the drummer, but also plays the guitar, djembe, bongo, hand percussion, and didgeridoo. Jay plays lead guitar, vocals, djembe, bongos, and hand percussion. Andy plays the double bass, electric bass, and guitar.

I was privileged enough to meet this wonderful, down to earth band after they performed. I went into the Glen House while Clarias was tuning and met Will. I was instantly given a hug and met Jay. Unfortunately, I am bad with names and forgot his. Later I tried to get him to tell me his name again, but he refused, so I ended up having to call him Norman. I was with them as they were moving their trailer, affectionately known as "her." They told me how happy they were to play at Hamilton and how they tried the O'Scugnizzo's pizza pie challenge--they had to end up sharing the pizza. The whole band graduated from college a year ago, and they are currently on a college tour. They are excited and in disbelief about having fans and getting the word out about their music.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.BAREFOOTTRUTH.COM

Barefoot Truth performed at the Glen House last week, opening this year's schedule of promising CAB events. It's Will!

Clarias had a very hard act to follow, but managed to do so. Clarias consists of Mike Giordano, vocals and acoustic guitar; Damian Gates, bass; Ben Andrews, guitars, banjo, and vocals; Steve Giles, keyboards and vocals; and Jordan Lipp, drums, percussion and vocals.

This Boston band was created by Mike and two of his college friends. Interestingly, Mike had never played the guitar until he was 18, but once he picked up the guitar, he never set it down. The three of them played at many bars and colleges, and after a few years, transformations, and additions, they became the band we know today. Amusingly, Jordan began his role in the band by playing the cowbell for the song "W.I.C.S.," but soon afterward became the drummer.

Clarias's music is a combination of radio pop, rock, jazz, and reggae, which distinguishes them from the increasing pop-rock genre. Their first CD *Related Space* was released in 2003, and their second, *Lines*, was released in 2005. *Lines* received rave reviews, and it was the 4th best selling independent album in the New England area after its release.

At the concert, Clarias performed songs such as "Burning Wheels," "Shine," "Heavyweights," "You Might Remember," and "Like You Could Care." Perhaps the best part about their performance was that for the last two songs they invited everyone dancing to join them right where they were playing. Mike commented at the end, "With everyone around me, I keep forgetting that I'm not at a party and I have to keep playing my guitar."

With a concert like this, CAB has made me especially excited for Gym Class Heroes performing on September 22.

Thursday's Acoustic Coffeehouse

by Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

This Thursday night, CAB hosted an Acoustic Coffeehouse featuring Brett Dennen. This is the newest CAB event in a recent explosion of musical and comedic entertainment.

Like all CAB performances, this one was no different--it was fantastic.

The show began with Joshua James, who captivated the audience with his haunting lyrics and screaming strums. James's songs are influenced from a variety of sources such as the Holocaust, farmers, and his brother.

Next up was Meiko, and her sweet songs could make people laugh and cry. The last song that she performed was one in which she wrote from the the view point of a hot dog, "I'm all beef, but I have a heart." It was very amusing.

Meiko will actually have one of her songs played on *Grey's Anatomy* this season. Pay attention for it.

Brett Dennen is a character. That is the only way that he can be described. Maybe it is because of his bright red hair. Between songs he kept the audience laughing at his antics. His music, although classified as folk, is so upbeat that it kept me dancing in my seat. The audience truely hated for the concert to end.

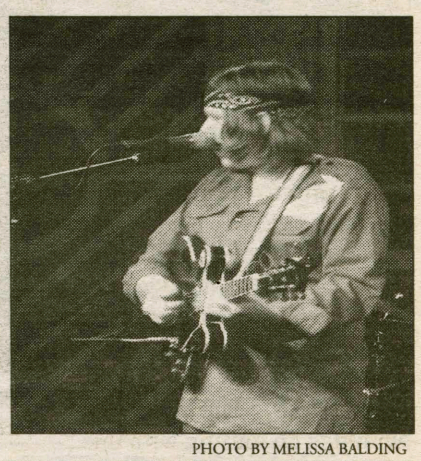


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING

Revenge of the Nerds: Apatow's Comedic Flair

by Alex Ossola '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Never in my life did I think I would be watching a movie and rooting for the main character to get laid, but I did--and on *two* separate occasions. This and many other firsts for the American viewing public are thanks to the multi-talented Judd Apatow, whose name is becoming increasingly familiar in households around the country.

The 39-year-old New York native (Syosset, to be specific) has achieved star status as a producer, writer and director. Especially among young adults, comedies such as *The 40-Year-Old Virgin, Knocked Up,* and the more recent *Superbad* are gaining renown and popularity at breakneck speed. But why are we so eager to spend nine dollars of our hard-earned cash on an R-rated comedy about nerds and losers who are painful to watch?

Apatow is gaining a reputation as a comedic genius for a variety of reasons. First of all, Apatow has a flare for putting the audience into awkward situations along with the protagonist.

"Apatow writes the way people speak. His sex scenes often are clumsy and involve men struggling with condoms," writes a reviewer from *USA Today*. The first would-be sex scene in *40-Year-Old Virgin,* with the multitude of broken condoms that Andy (Steve Carrell) is unsure how to use.

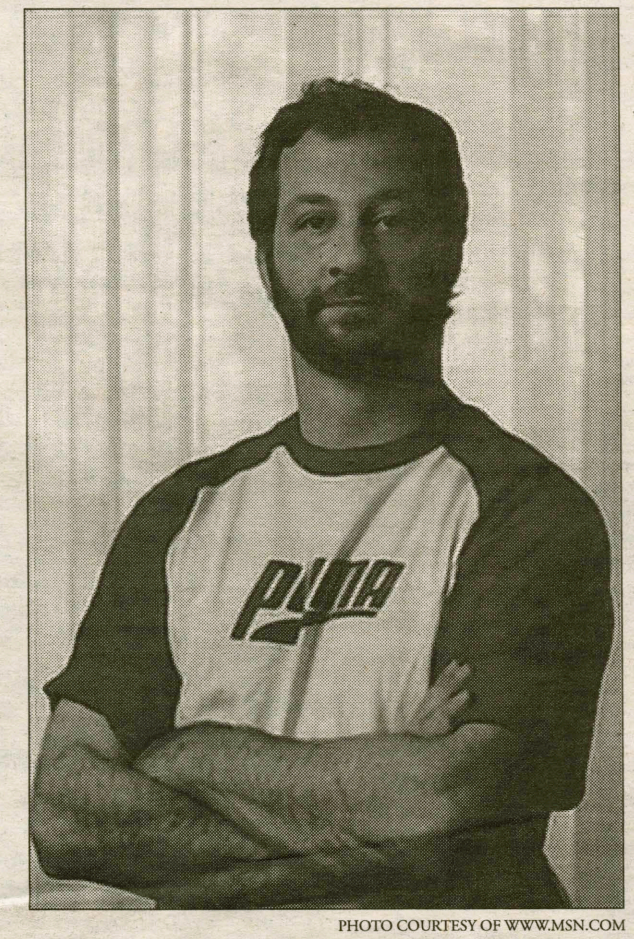


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.MSN.COM

Judd Apatow is king of the "freaks and geeks" with his recent box office hits.

Next, Apatow tells us it's okay to cheer for the losers. He says, "I think that everything I do tends to root for the underdog… I'm always putting that message out there. Eventually, the nerds and the geeks will have their day."

Even before he started producing monster box office hits, Apatow produced the short-lived TV series *Freaks and Geeks*, which, again, had viewers cheering for the little guy.

Finally, Apatow's films are able to infuse this hysterical comedy with a deeper message. Whether the message is to have safe sex (well, maybe that one's a little obvious) or the effect of romantic relationships on homo-social ones (as seen in the slightly forlorn glances between Seth and Evan in the last minutes of *Superbad)*, we might be actually *learning* things from comedies.

Because of their many redeeming features, Apatow's movies will continue to be hits even after he stops making them. Hopefully, that won't happen anytime soon. But Apatow says, "I assume 2007 will be seen as a solid year in my career, followed by a very quick, stunning flameout. And everyone will say, 'I guess he was out of gas. That's what he had to offer.' And it's over. But at least it ends with us telling a very important story that we all can learn from."

Yeah, right.

Pushing the Envelope: Mindless Self Indulgence

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Imagine all your favorite music. Now imagine throwing it in a huge blender and pressing the 'blend' button. Add a dash of "offensive" and you will come close to what kind of music Mindless Self Indulgence makes.

MSI has been pissing people off while garnering their respect since the mid-90s. Nothing is too risque for the co-ed band: they offend everyone equally. These New York City punk/hip-hop/hardcore/rap/genre-defying brats are anything but tame, and have truly redefined the musical landscape with their albums, *Frankenstein Girls Will Seem Strangely Sexy* (Elektra), *You'll Rebel To Anything* (Metropolis), and *Another Mindless Ripoff* (Metropolis/Uppity Cracker).

The band has been in numerous magazines, including *Rolling Stone* and *Alternative Press* and toured with bands such as System of a Down, Sum 41, Korn and Remmstein. The band just wrapped up touring with this summer's Projekt Revolution where they offended audiences for three months on the smaller Revolution stage.

"On stage is basically the only place you can get away with murder," strangely dreadlocked lead singer Jimmy Urine commented in a recent interview with *Metal Hammer.*

Urine and his bandmates -- guitarist Steve, Righ?, drummer Kitty and bassist Lyn-Z -- certainly take that philosophy to heart. MSI's live show is essentially the soundtrack to a riot. Urine tries to annoy the audience: he steals their cigarettes, exchanges insults like a bad game of catch and propositions the crowd for sexual favors. Steve, Righ? frequently flipps off the audience and Lyn-Z crowd surfs (and purportedly makes out with fans) during the band's set.

While the band's music may not scream "mainstream!" they have experienced a modest amount of success. Almost anyone over the age of fifteen (who is somewhat familiar with pop-culture) will recognize the opening notes of MSI's single from 2000, "B*tches," even if you can't place where exactly it is you've heard he song. Also, the band's song "Shut Me Up," has topped Billboard's Top 100 Dance Singles and MSI were July's number one electronica band on Myspace. Speaking of Myspace, the band has over seven million page views and close to 400,000 friends. Not too shabby for a band that isn't even trying to be mainstream. The band has such a strong, cult-like following that iTunes mistakenly labeled the band as 'religious,' creating mayhem in January of 2007 when Christian organizations became, well, offended by MSI's music. (On a funny side note, the band did reach #27 on the Christian/Gospel charts on iTunes.)

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.USIC.YAHOO.COM

Want to ride the pony? Mindless Self Indulgence dare you.

Mindless Self Indulgence will he headlining a few shows in the States before the band will head to Europe for headlining shows through the end of October and then will open for My Chemical Romance in November.

Mindless Self Indulgence also has a live DVD, *Our Pain, Your Gain*, set for release on September 11.

Write for A&E!
Contact ndietsch or astagner for more information.

Sounds Around Hamilton

by Leighton Smith '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Walking around Hamilton these first two weeks back, I have noticed the distinct music one can hear in various locations on campus. Sometimes I find myself singing along to the catchy tunes while at others I wince and start running. If you have no idea what I'm talking about, here is a rundown of what you might hear in different places.

1. The Mail Center: I often don't mind waiting in line for 20 minutes to get a package or trying three times to open my mailbox because the soothing sounds of the P.O.'s radio is quite appealing. I think they tune it to some light, easy listening station. All I know is that I hear a variety of great songs from the 80s, 90s and today!

2. The Diner: Just a short walk will get you to the Howard Diner. It is unique in that students can actually pick what they want to listen to on the jukebox. There's no telling what you might find wafting through the air along with the greasy smell of fries and meat. But on a Saturday night, one thing is for sure: you're getting a hearty serving of Meat Loaf.

3. The Registrar: I like visiting The Registrar, and not just because the people there are so nice (seriously, they are helpful). They also play fun music. When I requested two transcripts on Monday morning, I also got transported back to the late 1990s with some Matchbox 20. I don't remember which one. (Is there really any difference?)

4. The Blood Fitness Center: I go there to get huge, and nothing helps me do that like the classic rock pumping out of the sound system. If I had one suggestion, it would be that they pump up the volume.

5. Café Opus: Most of the time I don't know what they're playing at Opus, but it always sounds good. Keep it up guys, you're doing great work.

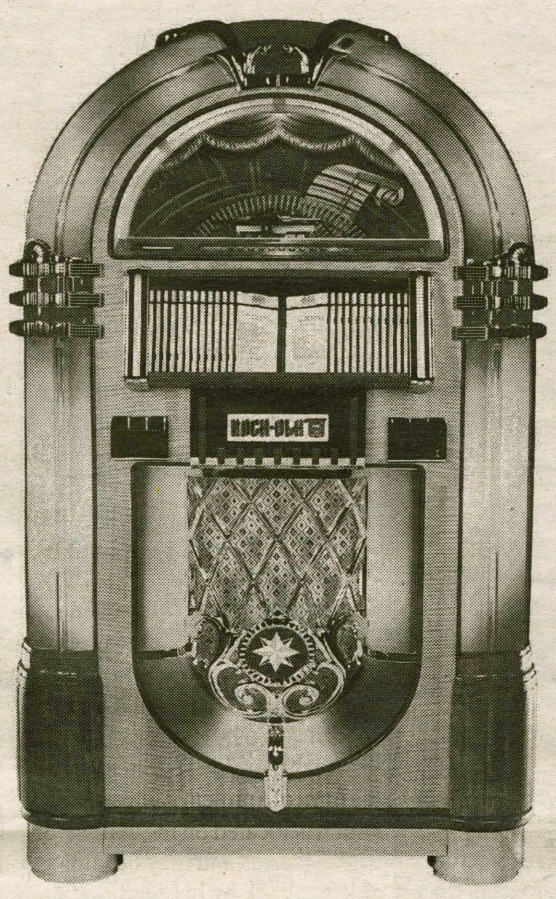


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.LAJUKEBOX.COM

There are some great places to hear good tunes all across campus... that doesn't sound like construction.

6. The Bookstore: And now I come to the bookstore. I'm not sure if this place could come any closer to resembling hell. First, you descend the staircase to reach the bowels of Bristol. Then there are the employees. Bless their hearts, they try their best. Unfortunately, I usually leave wishing they had the Gestapo running the place instead. And yes, my textbooks for the fall are worth more than my primary mode of transportation.

And yet, perhaps worse still is the bookstore's choice of music: country. As if the experience in that horrible place couldn't be any worse, I have to listen to some dude singing about horses and beer while I shell out 50 bucks for a paperback book. If I want livestock and alcohol, I'll head to a party.

Country music lovers out there: I'm sorry (for you, mostly). I like *true* country, Johnny Cash, Montana Slim, etc. So I don't want to hear about how country music is good. It *was* good, but today's version is a sorry shell of its former self.

There is no accounting for taste, and that is certainly the case here at Hamilton. One observation I made, though, is that the music does tend to reflect the attitudes of the workers. Mail Center: nice; Diner: sometimes loud and a little crazy; Registrar: cool; Fitness center: aggressive; Opus: chill; and Bookstore: annoying, mindless, and cruel.

I think I touched on all of the biggies. If I forgot any spots with great music, please let me know so I can add them to my records.

Movie Review: Shoot 'Em Up

by Rebecca Griffin '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For those action movie fans that were disappointed with the lack of activity and the excess of dialogue in this summer's blockbusters, *Shoot Em' Up* delivers a movie that's action packed from start to finish. Plot and character development are minimal in the movie which instead boasts intense fighting and thrills as it provides an almost satirical mocking view into the world of fighting crime.

The movie never attempts to be serious as it becomes increasingly more violent, bloody, and ludicrous. The entire film appears to be cartoonish at times as it delivers one over the top fight sequence after another. Set in London, *Shoot Em' Up* tells the story of Mr. Smith, played by Clive Owen, a nanny that has numerous years of military service to his name. Trained in combat, Smith comes to the aid of Mary White, Monica Bellucci, as she attempts to protect a baby from a maniacal hit man, Paul Giamatti. Mr. Hertz, the hit man, has opened what could be called a "baby farm" in order to use infants to gain bone marrow for the rich. White and Smith must run from Hertz and his henchmen in order to save the infant while fighting to stay alive themselves. The movie culminates in a climatic action sequence that surpasses any fight in a film this year.

The movie has been heavily criticized as some find it morally reprehensible. These critiques have only served to heighten *Shoot Em' Up's* allure. The plot is not the real focus of the movie, which centers on the fight sequences and one-liners. At just 86 minutes, *Shoot Em' Up* delivers to anyone who is interesting in an undemanding non-stop action film. The fact that it's hard to take the movie seriously just adds to its appeal. *Shoot Em' Up* will be released September 7th and is rated R.

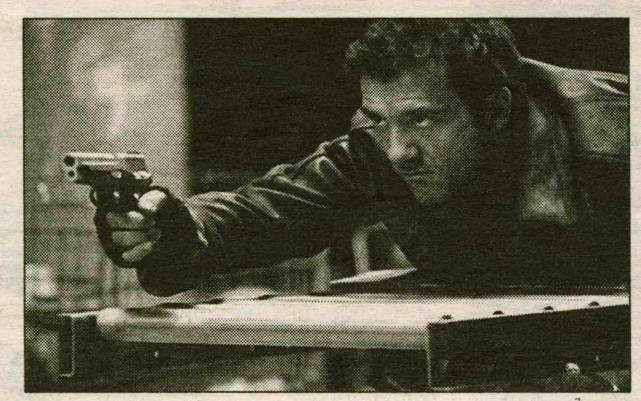


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.UPLOAD.MOLDOVA.COM

Clive Owen stars in *Shoot 'Em Up.*

PLAYLIST:
Just Plain Awesome

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

So you might not agree with me on some (or any) of the following choices, but they are pretty fantastic songs that should at least get one listen...

1. *Stiff Kittens* by Blaqk Audio - What do you get when you put Davey Havok and Jade Puget (of AFI) in a room with keyboards? Brilliant, dark and twisty electronica. Definitely NOT your older brother's AFI, Blaqk Audio is just COOL.

2. *Grubbery* by Stolen Babies - This song is from an indie movie, Gris Grimly's "Cannibal Flesh Riot." Okay, so don't let the name of the movie turn you off, the song has multiple creepy horror movie layers of piano, vocals, cymbals and maybe even an accordian.

3. *Shut Me Up* by Mindless Self Indulgence - These New York punk-brats are more than just rock. They are what you'd get if you put dance-electronica, punk, metal, pop and a dash of weird together in a blender and hit 'frappe.' You'll dance, you'll yell along, and you'll fall in love with the line "I like my coffee black/ just like my metal," even if you hate metal.

4. *Murder Was the Cast That They Gave Me* by Leathermouth - This might be one of those songs on this list that you'll hate, but I'm a sucker for screamo, so I love it. Yet another side project (this one is Frank Iero of My Chemical Romance's band), it's not exactly dance-worthy, but it is great if you're having a bad day.

5. *Smuggled Mutation* by Estradasphere - This band is more of a rock orchestra. This song starts off with a violin, and the rest of the band are armed with string instruments from your 8th grade orchestra days. This song sounds like it should be on a soundtrack or in a movie when the main character is frantically running around in fast-forward.

6. *Zina Marina* by Gogol Bordello - Essentially, there is no way to classify the awesomeness of this gigantic gypsy-punk band, but after they rocked the pants off of the Annex/Pavillion/Whatever It's Called Now last year, Gogol Bordello have released a new album of greatness.

7. *Taste In Men* by Placebo - Placebo is just amazing. And this song, off one of their earlier albums, is one of the defining features of just how fantastic they are. Brian Molko urges you to change your taste in men, even if his own taste isn't that great...

8. *Come Back Home* by Hawthorne Heights - No one knows what record label H.H. will release their next album. They broke up with Victory Records because they weren't getting paid, but their newest song is definitely a step in the right direction for one main reason: much less whiny.

9. *Forever Fades Away* by Tiger Army - You have not heard of Tiger Army?! Le gasp. THE premeire band of Psychobilly, Tiger Army has been around for a while, an on their latest album, *Music From Regions Beyond*, they are true to form, rocking the double bass and psychobilly sound like nobody's business.

10. *Sugar Skulls* by Envy On The Coast - Off their surprising breakthrough debut album (*Lucy Gray*)that shocked critics everywhere by it's sheer musicality, Envy On The Coast crosses genres and creates something amazing. They're also from Long Island, so I need to plug the home town bands.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Battle Against AIDS Continues Today

by Nate Fedrizzi '10
Science and Technology Writer

With the threat of a global pandemic mounting, much media attention and legislative focus have been given to address the possibility of an outbreak. This summer Hamilton students were even required to submit their plans for evacuation to protect against a bird flu epidemic. Given the current hysteria, it seems some of the focus has been shifted from the most pending threat to mankind: HIV and AIDS. The disease that Hamilton students have grown up knowing is more devastating to humans than ever, with an estimated 39.5 million people living with HIV/AIDS, and 4.3 million people newly infected since 2006, reported UNAIDS/WHO. Though progress has been made in combating the disease, the virus mutates so rapidly that advances are slow and new problems continue to arise. Earlier this year, the Seattle Times reported that four men in Seattle were diagnosed with similar strains of HIV that are extremely resistant to antiretroviral drugs, the medicine that is currently used to treat HIV patients.

Fortunately, the news regarding the disease has not been all bad, and several medical advancements may help to turn the tide on the epidemic. The FDA is expected to approve a new drug from Merck & Co. called Isentress, which studies have shown to perform well in treating patients who are no longer responding to other treatments. Isentress is part of a new class drugs called integrase inhibitors that combat HIV by blocking the virus from infecting new cells and replicating itself. While this class of drugs will in no way provide a cure, they do offer hope to those for whom the current drug cocktails no longer offer help.

Hope for a cure, however, does exist, as a research team in Johannesburg, South Africa, led by Dr. Gavin Churchyard, has reported that early results from their research indicates that patients had a positive immune response to an experimental vaccine. The vaccine, dubbed HVTN 204, may someday help the 5.5 million Africans currently infected with HIV, or provide the basis for future vaccines that could prevent infection entirely. A second vaccine being developed by a Finnish research team, FIT Biotech, in South Africa provides similar hopes, using a DNA-based vaccine to help prevent HIV from progressing into AIDS. New hope for a reliable vaccine has also been gained by a recent report from U.S. NIH researcher Peter Kwong, who revealed that atomic level imaging of the HIV virus attacking human cells has yielded information of a location on the virus that may be vulnerable. This weakness is in the form of a protein named gp120, which is located on the surface of the HIV virus and may be vulnerable to attack by b-12 antibodies. While this information could provide the key to development of a vaccine to neutralize the virus, researchers caution that official results likely remain years away.

HOLAMUN2.ORG

UNAIDS and WHO estimate that 39.5 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS

Better understanding of the virus has also led to better methods of preventing contraction. The Los Angeles Times reported earlier this year new findings that suggest that circumcision cuts the risk of HIV contraction in men by half. The recent advances in the battle against AIDS suggest that better understanding of the virus holds the key to its eventual elimination. Though a cure seems unlikely in the immediate future, the ongoing research of HIV/AIDS is providing new information to help scientists better understand and combat the virus.

Research @ Hamilton
Jillian Berkowitz '09, Amy Klegarth '09 and Kristen Selden '09

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

When most people think of turtles, they think of walking shields, animals that take their homes with them wherever they go. Certainly, the word "vulnerable" doesn't come to mind. Nevertheless, turtles are reptiles, one of the two classes of animals most affected by global environmental change, the other being amphibians. Jillian Berkowitz '09, Kristen Selden '09, and Amy Klegarth '09, under the advisement of Professor of Biology David Gapp and with the assistance of the Director of the Hamilton microscopy and imaging facility Ken Bart, realized this summer that they don't have to travel too far to see the impact and make a difference. The team's research on the digestive tract of the painted turtle is helping to shed much-needed light on how, and how many, toxins in the air and water make it into the bloodstream of these truly defenseless and extraordinary animals.

"A painted turtle has a lifespan between 30 and 40 years," said Klegarth. It was obvious watching the team they were learning more than just datapoints and conversational factoids. They carefully discussed how to handle the animals for a photograph, and showed a respect for the animals that went far beyond that given a simple biological specimen. "Turtles have been respected by many cultures, and I hope we're learning some of that," said Berkowitz. The natural beauty of the turtles was obvious even to the first-time viewer. The hard black bodies are both graceful and adorable at once, and the red striping on the feet and yellow marks on the head looked distinguished and powerful, reminiscent of the logos on a racecar. Nevertheless, the turtles, being turtles, didn't move that fast. "They swim faster than they move on land," said Selden. "They're swimming turtles, which makes them rather rare."

Despite the glistening exteriors of the reptiles, it was what's inside the animals that primarily interested these scientists. "There were studies done in the 1950s that suggested the digestive tract in turtles was straight and simple," said Berkowitz. This summer, however, the team used much more advanced techniques to discover the true complexities of the reptilian digestion process. "We know now that there are different hormones secreted at some places in the digestive tract than others," said Klegarth. "Even the same hormones are produced at different levels in some parts of the tract," Selden pointed out.

The team was also interested in the idea of cell dif

*see **Research**, page 21*

PHOTO BY ELIJAH LACHANCE

From left to right: Jillian Berkowitz '09, Kristen Selden '09, and Amy Klegarth '09 found time for some fun, too

Did You Know That?
Wacky Science Facts

by Tara Apo '10
Science & Technology Writer

- ***Elephants can hear through their feet.***
- ***An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.***
- ***It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.***
- ***There are more atoms in a bucket of water than there are buckets of water in in the Atlantic Ocean.***
- ***The Great Wall of China is NOT visible from space. The only man made structures visible from space are the Pyramids of Giza and the Hoover Dam.***
- ***The average chocolate bar in the U.S. contains at least eight pieces of an insect in it.***
- ***An octopus has three hearts.***
- ***Only female mosquitoes bite.***
- ***The original design for the Volkswagon Beetle was proposed by Adolph Hitler.***
- ***Armadillos, opossums, and sloths spend about 80 percent of their lives sleeping.***
- ***Elephants sleep an average of 2 hours a day.***
- ***Ants do not sleep.***
- ***The only letter that doesn't appear on the Periodic Table is "J."***
- ***The highest recorded temperature on earth was 136°F in Libya in 1922.***
- ***The U.S. consumes 25 percent of the world's energy despite having only 5 percent of the world's human population.***

SCI & TECH EVENTS

Hamilton Diversity and Social Justice Project Calendar:

This Year's Theme: Health Matters

You Can't Do Just One Thing: What Ecology Teaches Us About Social Justice

September 8th GO27 9:30 a.m.

Professor Leslie Thiele - University of Florida

"It requires a very unusual mind to undertake the analysis of the obvious."
- Alfred North Whitehead

BioMatters Club First Meeting

Plan speakers, trips, and other cool science activities!

Sunday, Sept. 9 7:00 p.m.

Biology Student Lounge (Second floor SCCT)

HEAG
(Hamilton Environmental Action Group)

Tuesdays 8 p.m.
Glen House

PROFESSOR PROFILE
Nicole Snyder, Chemistry

THE FACTS:

Name: Nicole Snyder
Department: Chemistry
College: Westminster
Ph.D. Work: University of Connecticut
Research: Carbohydrate chemistry

INTERVIEW SECTION:

WWW.HAMILTON.

Prof. Snyder formerly taught at Wellesley College.

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

Nicole Snyder: I am me.

EL: What areas of chemistry most interest you and why?

NS: I am a bioorganic chemist and enjoy using synthetic organic chemistry as a tool to study interactions between carbohydrates and proteins, enzymes, and DNA at the molecular level. I have always enjoyed studying biology from a chemical perspective, and I am most interested in investigating interactions that may ultimately have some medicinal application. Several of the problems I am currently interested in studying include one: the design and development of a molecule that will effectively bind and inhibit galectin 1, a protein associated with tumor progression; two: the synthesis and evaluation of a novel derivative of vancomycin, a glycopeptide antibiotic used to treat staphylococcus and enterococcus infections; and three: the preparation of new derivative of cisplatin that can be used to treat testicular and ovarian cancer.

EL: Other than the Science Center, where can students expect to see you around campus?

NS: I have been trying to go to the gym a couple of days a week.

EL: How did you eventually choose to teach chemistry for a living?

NS: When I was young, I watched Christa McAuliffe train for her flight on the space shuttle Challenger. In the months before her journey, the teachers in our elementary school began preparing us for her flight. Naturally, the study of outer space became one of the focal points of our second grade classroom, and I clearly remember all of the excitement that was generated over this historical event. We were going to see the first teacher fly into outer space. I thought Christa McAuliffe was the coolest teacher in the world, and I wanted to be just like her (as did most of the students in my class). I, like the rest of the nation, was devastated to watch the Challenger explode (live) with her on board on January 28, 1986. Her death was a tragedy, but her life was an inspiration. I never actually thought of becoming an astronaut, but from that point on I wanted to be teacher (the chemistry came a little later). I continued to study science throughout my middle school career, and in fifth grade I won the science fair for a cool little project called "The Secrets in the Soil." However, it wasn't until I took chemistry in my junior year of high school that I realized I found my niche, and by my senior year of high school I decided I wanted to be a high school chemistry teacher. In college, I eventually ended up double majoring in chemistry and biology with plans to teach high school in Pennsylvania where I grew up. During my junior and senior years as an undergraduate student, I conducted research first in the colleges advanced laboratory, and later with a biochemistry professor named Timothy Sherwood. Through these experiences, I became interested in research, and quickly realized that there was a whole other world out there that I hadn't explored. I decided to go to graduate school, but I never gave up my love for teaching and taught all throughout my graduate career. Upon graduating with my doctoral degree, I set my heart on teaching at a small liberal arts college so that I could teach and conduct research with interested undergraduate students. Here I am…

EL: Why Hamilton?

NS: I truly believe that Hamilton College is the best liberal arts college in this country. I was not only impressed during my visit to the college last December, I was inspired. The faculty and students I met over the two days I spent on campus interviewing were kind, considerate, intelligent, articulate, and fun. The science center was simply amazing, and I was overwhelmed by the instrumentation available for student and faculty use. Hamilton College was one of the last colleges I interviewed at, but it quickly became my first choice and I am very excited to be a new addition to this wonderful community.

EL: What is your funniest and/or most embarrassing

*see **Professor Profile**, page 21*

Professor Profile: Nicole Snyder, Chemistry
*from **Professor Profile**, page 20*

childhood memory that you wouldn't mind sharing?

NS: When I was a young teen, a couple of my friends and I were setting off small legal fireworks (under close adult supervision) in a campground on Lake Erie over the Fourth of July weekend. One of the "bumblebees" that we were setting off flew a little higher and farther than expected, and ended up over a large embankment in a pile between some old tires and wooden frameworks that had been dumped there. The entire embankment caught on fire and it took several fire truck tankers with water and foam to put it out. Half of the campgrounds had to be evacuated and everyone knew we were the culprits. It was an accident and no one got in trouble, but it was still rather embarrassing.

EL: Do you have any habits students might notice? If so, what are they?

NS: I am a neat freak.

EL: What is your favorite band or singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book. and your favorite home-cooked meal?

NS: My favorite bands are Jimmy Eat World, The Dashboard Confessionals, and Reggie and the Full Effect. My favorite singers are Joni Mitchell, Sia, and Dido. My favorite ice cream flavor is "cake batter," especially when it comes from Cold Stone Creamery and the mix-ins are chocolate chips and graham cracker crust! My favorite book is *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel.My favorite home-cooked meal is pot roast (cooked in the crock pot) with mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and a tomato mozzarella balsamic vinaigrette salad.

EL: What would you say is your teaching style, and what can students expect who are in your classes?

NS: In my classroom, I prefer to use a multifaceted approach that involves a good mix of lectures, hands-on demonstrations, and group and individual problem solving sessions. Students in my classes (lecture, lab or research based) can always expect a nurturing, supportive, and active learning environment.

EL: What was the craziest thing you did in college you wouldn't mind sharing?

NS: I took a course called "The Geology and Ecology of Hawaii" when I was a junior at Westminster College. One night, many of us went on a dive several miles off the coast of the Big Island. Our objective was to sit on the ocean floor and shine light up into the water in order to attract plankton (a major food source of the manta ray). This doesn't really sound all that crazy until you are actually two to three atmospheres below the surface of the water and you are sitting in the middle of a feeding ground...waiting. You start to think, "Yeah... this is pretty crazy."

Hamilton Repitle Research
*from **Research**, page 19*

ferentiation – the idea that different types of cells have different functions within the tract and are in different locations – and folding along the tract. All in all, it was a very different picture from the one painted on the painted turtle in the 1950s.

The team used a scanning electron microscope (SEM) to visualize the tract. The SEM works by shooting beams of electrons at a sample and can magnify its subject up to 350,000 times its original size, giving the team an unprecedented look at the possible cell differentiation. "We know the cell differentiation is there, the different hormone levels are there, that the folding is there, but we're the first to try to put it all together," said Selden.

The group also worked on harvesting other organs from the turtles for possible future research. The goal was that nothing be wasted. Especially important was the possibility of finding a correlation between different hormone levels and either cell differentiation or tract folding. The team worked on finding details as to what kinds of processes and absorption takes place in the tract, leading to the possibility of seeing the effects of particular pollutants on the turtles and providing guidance on which chemicals to limit to ensure the turtles' survival. "Plus, we want to give the correct picture on what the digestive tract of the turtles looks like," said Klegarth. "The past research hasn't done that in a great deal of detail." This past summer, the team learned the age-old lesson that a new generation can sometimes do things better than the generations before, and in the process help out a species possibly as old as the dinosaurs.

Q: What did one lab rat say to the other?

A: I've got my scientist so well-trained, every time I push the bar he brings me a snack!

Can you write a better science joke than this one?

We hope so.

Sci and Tech September Contest: Best Science Joke

The best entries will be published in the first October issue!

e-mail submissions to: elachanc@hamilton.edu

CRAZY: A History of Mental Institutions

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

It has had many names: loony bin, fun house, funny farm, crazy house, insane asylum, idjit camp, super pre-school. No matter which term is used, the mental institution has become an established part of the world consciousness. For hundreds of years, it has been expected that those who are "different" or "strange" due to mental disabilities will be sent to someplace *else*, someplace *different*, someplace where, above all, "those people" won't intrude themselves into the lives of "normal" people and become inconveniences, nuisances, street bums, or other "undesirables." This article series will attempt, through a history of the mental institution, to breed awareness about both the positive and negative aspects of having these facilities in our modern world. These articles will not present an opinion, only information in the form of a story: the story of how people with mental disorders beyond their control have been treated throughout history in societies across the globe, with a central focus on the attitudes of Western culture.

Pre-history seems, at first blush, to be an odd place for a history to begin, but it is here the story must begin, for on many levels our deep-seeded desire to weed out and separate those we believe to be differnet or inferior is rooted in evolution and it is here, in pre-history, where the shifting carnal hazes of an animalistic past begin to materialize into something that can be analyzed, understood, and used perhaps to understand the actions of people in the later, more concrete, chapters of history in their turn. We turn, then, to the ancient cultures, and we ask how they treated those who have so often been dealt with perfunctorily as children of a lesser god.

In many ancient cultures, the trend of the awe and reverence of nature becomes clear to even the most casual historical observer. So too does the theme of spirit worship with an emphasis on natural figures such as the sun, trees, and animals - such as brids, dogs, and spiders - with characteristics early people presumably wished they had themselves. Out of this belief system, many early cultures developed a strong belief in posession by the spirits of animals or spirits in general. The idea of possession was one of the first explanations for what was "wrong" with certain people. The logic was simple and, at the time, irrefutable. "These people aren't behaving like people," went the argument. "Therefore, their behavior is not actually controlled by a person. These human bodies have been possessed by something. Since animals are the only other beings that act and display behavior, these people must have been possessed by animals.

Another common theme was the connection of the eyes with the passage of insanity. Whether the culture valued eye contact or shunned it in general seems to have made no difference; staring into the eyes of a person who had been possessed was bad news. This superstition seems to have been connected with snakes, perhaps because of the propensity of some snakes to temporarily mesmerize their prey with their stare before striking. This deep fear of eye contact with possessed persons has given rise to a number of more modern offshoots, including the ideas of the basilisk, Medusa, and the term "the evil eye." In addition, calling someone who is obviously in love to the point of seeming madness "snakebit" is a direct result of these early beliefs.

Next week, we'll watch the mists clear still more and prepare ourselves for the rise of the Egyptians, the Ancient Chinese, and eventaully the Greeks and Romans. We will see how the beliefs different cultures held on insanity both hurt and helped these societies, and we will see some of the lessons we might learn now that our society is so afraid of people with mental disabilities as to want them, more than anything else, just to go away.

NFL: Preview of Potenial Playoff Contenders

by Sean Hopper '09
Sports Writer

Football fans got their first taste of pigskin last week with the beginning of the college football season. Now, everyone is hungry for the NFL season to start. By the time you read this, the Colts and Saints will have already kicked off the season. The offseason, which is usually headed by something about T.O. saying something selfish or doing something immature, was more about suspensions and disappointment with players. Commissioner Roger Goodell suspended players like Tank Johnson and Pac Man Jones for their poor behavior and illegal acts. But that was overshadowed by the Michael Vick scandal, which saddened and stunned fans across the country. Hopefully the start of the season will provide fans enough of a reason to forget about an offseason most will want to forget. So now here is my preview for the year with division winner and wild card team predictions.

AFC East: New England Patriots: One of the biggest locks to do well this season is the Patriots. Although teams in the AFC East improved, such as the New York Jets, no one in this division will be able to stand up to them. The Patriots were just a couple of plays from the Super Bowl last year and added a boatload of talent including Randy Moss, Adalius Thomas and Donte Stallworth.

AFC North: Baltimore Ravens: Their defense is scary, arguably the best in the league. They force turnovers left and right and almost always give their offense good field position. Steve McNair's first year in Baltimore was a success except they did not go as far in the playoffs as they would have liked. Mark Clayton has started to show signs of being a true number one receiver, something that their offense lacks. The Jamal Lewis era is over, but now Willis McGahee is in the mix. McGahee provides a significant upgrade over Lewis and will definitely help bolster the offense.

AFC South: Indianapolis Colts: The defending Super Bowl champions will be on the title defense with everyone trying to dethrone them. The Colts have the firepower on offense to make opposing defenses look silly. The big reason for this is Peyton being Peyton. Joseph Addai was great last year in his rookie season and will look to improve upon his career numbers. The defense was able to keep Freeney, but lost key players LB Cato June and CB Jason David.

AFC West: San Diego Chargers: Schottenheimer's gone and Norv Turner is in. Is this the addition that will put them over the top? The Chargers are dominant on both sides of the ball. LT is absolutely ridiculous and he will continue to be so every game of the year. In his first year as a starter, Phillip Rivers exceeded expectations and made fans forget about Drew Brees. Then their defense, which uses the 3-4 front led by the beastly Shawne Merriman, who is a sack machine, is almost as hard to stop as LT is for a defense. Like the Patriots, it will be hard for teams to challenge them; we'll see how they fare in the playoffs.

AFC Wild Card Teams: New York Jets and Cincinnati Bengals

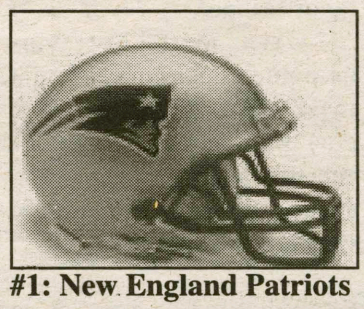
NFC East: Philadelphia Eagles: The Eagles were a great team with Donovan McNabb at QB and still made the playoffs without him. McNabb's injury problems are a concern because without him, I don't see Kevin Kolb or AJ Feeley leading them to victory even with the dynamic Brian Westbrook at running back. The Eagles offense improved slightly this year when they added receiver Kevin Curtis to play opposite Reggie Brown. Their defense will be good as it always has been under Jim Johnson. Brian Dawkins is the leader of this defense, and although he's old, he never shows it. The addition of LB Takeo Spikes should also help.

NFC North: Chicago Bears: The division has improved since last year, but besides the Bears, the rest of the teams are all mediocre. I'm not taking anything away from the Bears; they are a great team that will reap the benefits of being in a weak division. Everyone knows that the Bears are awesome on defense, and they will be again this year, mostly because their defense is exactly the same. It was huge for them to keep LB Lance Briggs this year, and safety Adam Archuleta will hope to rejuvenate himself in Chicago. Rex Grossman is still the QB for this team, but I don't know if he could ever win a Super Bowl.

NFC South: New Orleans Saints: No one saw the Saints coming last year. Now everyone is scared of them and their high-powered offense. The Saints offense just put up touchdown after touchdown after touchdown last year, and a year later they expect this trend to continue. Drew Brees showed everyone that he belongs in the upper echelon of quarterbacks with the year he had last year. The two-headed beast that is Reggie Bush and Deuce McAlister combined with Drew Brees at the helm is just unfair for most defenses. Although the receiving corps let Joe Horn go, they are still great with receivers Colston, Henderson and first round draft pick Robert Meachem. Just like the Colts, the Saints defense isn't really anything special except for their defensive line, but they are good enough that Brees and Bush will put up enough points not to worry about how much the other team scores.

NFC West: Seattle Seahawks: The Seahawks are a good team that really got hurt by injuries last year. My real concern with them is that if those same injuries, cough (Shaun Alexander) cough, will happen again. Their best DT is already going to miss the rest of the season, which doesn't bode well for them. Their offense with Hasselbeck and Alexander is great, and although they let go of Darrell Jackson, Deon Branch and D.J. Hackett will step up so that Jackson won't be missed. Losing Jeremy Stevens will not be that big of an issue as the team was able to pick up the saavy veteran, Marcus Pollard. The Seahawks defense will miss Marcus Tubbs, but the team has a solid defense with good corners and very good linebacker corps. The Seahawks also own kicker Josh Brown who seems only to know how to make game-winning field goals.

NFC Wild Card Teams: Dallas Cowboys and Carolina Panthers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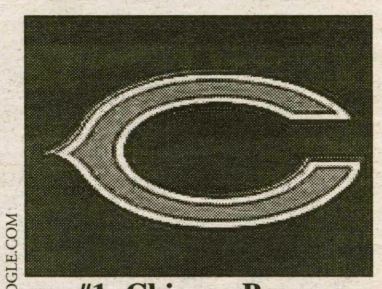
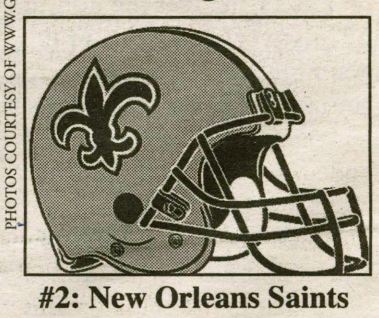
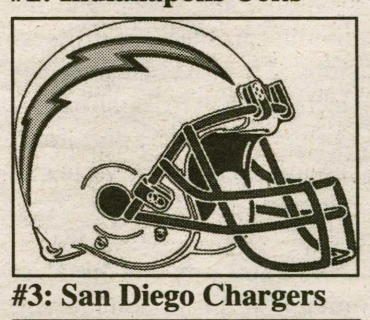
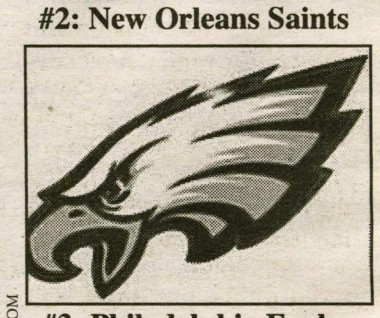

#1: Chicago Bears

#2: Indianapolis Colts


#2: New Orleans Saints

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WWW.GOOGLE.COM


#3: San Diego Chargers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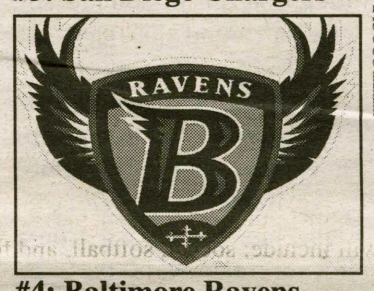
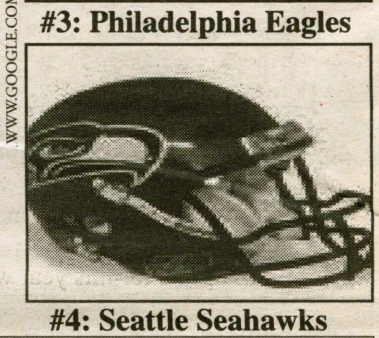


#4: Baltimore Ravens


#4: Seattle Seahawks

WWW.GOOGLE.COM

Beckham: Worth the Hype?

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

The David Beckham experiment has not gone as the L.A. Galaxy would have hoped. Although he has helped them sell tickets and generate revenue, he has not been able to stay on the field. When he first came over to America, he had an ankle injury that limited him to only 12 minutes during his debut. Since then, he played in only two games and had two assists. He injured his knee against Pachuca during the SuperLiga final. Beckham will not be in action for the team for the rest of the season.

Many fans have become upset with Major League Soccer because they have been paying higher ticket prices with hopes of seeing David Beckham play. With all of the injury problems, David has missed many of his team's games and the fans have been stuck watching mediocre talent at a high cost. It does not bode well for the league to stand pat on the issue because many of these fans will not be coming back to watch another game.

To compound all of this, Beckham has been toying with the idea of playing for England during the offseason. The L.A. Galaxy want to protect their investment so they have been reluctant so far to agree to a transfer. Beckham will have to concede some of his guaranteed money in order for this to work and his desire to reach 100 games as captain of team England might be enough to get him to do so. He needs only three more games to reach the epic milestone.

David Beckham has been great on the field when he has been active, but what we can expect from him next year is anyone's guess. His injury rehabilitation will need to be extensive and he cannot afford to get back too soon.

With all of the hype, Beckham will need to show America why he is worth his huge contract next season. MLS is riding on the hope that Beckham will be able to play like he did during tenure with Manchester United. If Beckham fails to show up on the field next year, much of the interest in American soccer will be lost again and the MLS will have a hard time getting anyone to come watch its games.

WWW.THEPHOENIX.COM

Club and Intramural Sports

by Ashley Stangor '09
Arts and entertainment Editor

Hamilton boasts an impressive array of athletic opportunities for students. Not only does Hamilton have the standard varsity level sports, but it also have Intramural sports as well.

Dave Thompson, Director of Intramural Sports, spent last year observing the program and listening to student concerns. Now, with a newly appointed student committee—Jiong Chen '10, Jon Farber '08, Nathan Vandergrift '08, Sharfi Farhana '09, and Katie Donahue '08—Thompson hopes to make some positive changes in the program for this year.

Farber explained that, "As part of the IM committee, every member helps brainstorm ideas and come up with a plan to reorganize the system."

According to Thompson, these changes include "A better way to communicate rules, schedules and standings, getting more students involved in the program, particularly women, minimizing forfeits, and creating consistent and pre-season scheduling."

Thompson added, "Our hope is to make the IM experience more accessible and enjoyable for everyone. We hope not only to improve the way we do things, but to also present a range of activities that have broad campus appeal."

The first captains' meeting of the year took place this past Wednesday, and is part of the IM Sports Committee's approach to communicate rules, policies and procedures more effectively to all participants. Additionally, it should help with limiting forfeits.

Members of the committee also serve individual roles. For example, Donahue is in charge of all the one time events such as the Beach Volleyball Tournament and Picnic this Saturday. She said, "Depending on what the students want, I am willing to organize just about any one-time sporting event, so suggestions are always welcome. Additionally, I am running IM Softball this fall."

Chen decided to become part of the committee after signing up to participate in IM basketball last year, but he ended up being unable to play due to team scheduling conflicts. He now builds and updates the website for Intramural Sports. Their website and the bulletin board in the fitness center are part of the committee's efforts to make the program more visible.

Chen elaborated, "Now we have all the information we need to know for playing an Intramural game, like schedules, times, rules, etc. on the web. And we also have an online registration open for fall games. Once the league starts, we will publish all the results of the games and rank the teams on the site. I believe that the new web site will really make Intramural Sports more modern and efficient."

Similarly, Farber realized from previous experience the need for an IM committee, "I played varsity baseball for two seasons and varsity football for one. As for intramural sports, I have played football, softball, soccer, basketball and other smaller tournaments. My experience with sports has helped me understand the need for a sustainable and organized IM program. Also, my experience with the intramural program as a participant allows me to better understand the program's strengths and weaknesses."

Farber added, "People should know that this year our goal is to make the system more organized. We want input, both positive and negative. We will be enforcing the rules, but everything we do is an effort to make the system better. Hopefully most of the things we've implemented will do just that. If, however, that is not the case, or people have issue with the way we operate, I want to hear their input."

Students should pay attention for future announcements about IM games so that they can cheer on their friends. The fall Intramural Sports for this year will include: soccer, softball, and football.

Write for Spec Sports!
Contact:
Lindsay (lgetman)
Brandon (bleibsoh)

Hamilton Crew Teams Hope for Fair Weather This Fall

by Christine Raia '10
Sports Writer

The Hamilton Men's and Women's Crew Team had an outstanding season this past spring despite the unfortunate weather that cancelled a lot of their races including the ECAC National Invitational Collegiate Regatta.

They started off the Spring 2007 season with a big win at the Augusta Invitational on Langley Pond in South Carolina. They swept the race against Union College, where both the men and women excelled as they proudly took home the Gillman Cup.

Both teams were also recognized twice by the Liberty League as the Weekly Award Winners throughout the spring season. Last spring, the women's varsity eight boat took first place on the Erie after defeating Vassar College and St. Lawrence University and the women's varsity four boat became Liberty League Champions.

The men's varsity eight went to the New York State Championships and came in fourth place during the initial heat, which allowed them to get to the petite final where the team finished fifth overall. The women's varsity four finished in third place out of six boats, while the women's novice eight also took home third place out of six during the championships.

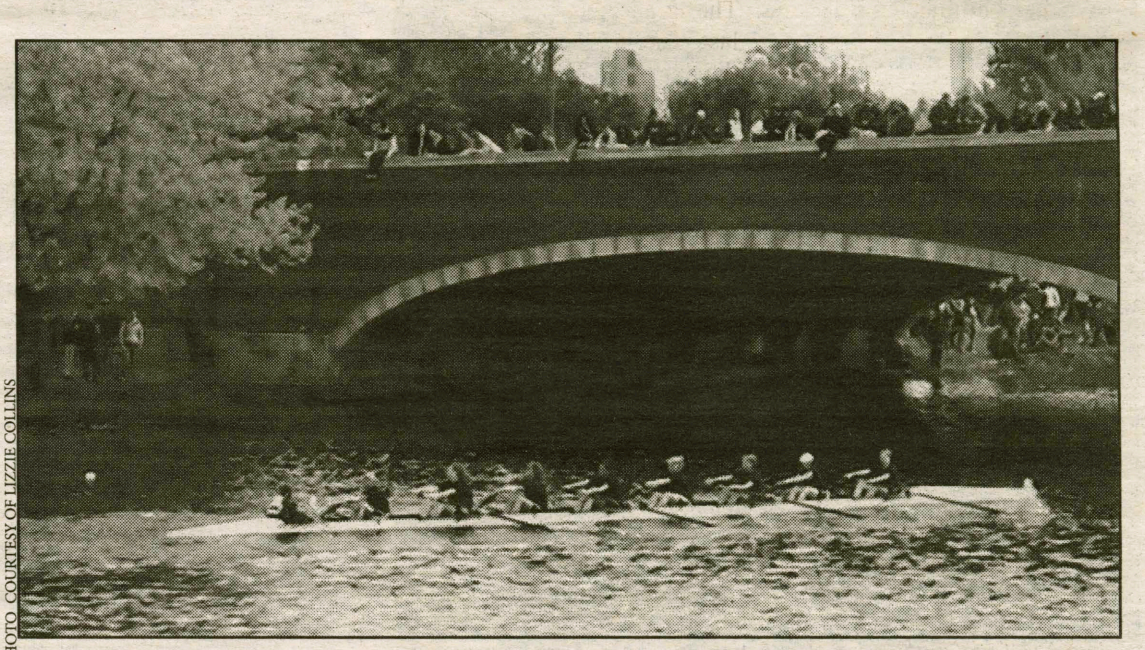


PHOTO COURTESY OF LIZZIE COLLINS

The women's team passes under the Elliot Bridge at Head of the Charles in Boston.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIZZIE COLLINS

The men's team rows at the Head of the Charles Regatta.

The crew teams final races of the season did not go off as planned because of high winds during the National Invitational Collegiate Regatta. The women's varsity four was not even given the chance to have one time trial during the invitational. The men's varsity eight got in two heats and were able to finish in the top six. The women's novice eight was able to finish in third place in their only heat.

The Women's Crew Team has Anne Bowler '08, Sarah Henochowicz '08, Bridget Moore '08, and captains Britt Freitag '08, Katie Goodwin '08, and Catrin Jones '08 all back for their senior seasons. The sole returning senior on the men's squad this year is Mike Millar '08, who will serve as team captain.

Returning for his third year, Head Coach Eric Summers is optimistic for this year's team. Summers, not only pushes his rowers to reach their maximum potential while out on the water, but he also encourages his rowers to excel academically. Freitag, Moore, and recent graduate Kate Pallin '07 were all selected as NESCAC Spring All-Academic Honorees by the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association.

As long as the weather holds out, the Men's and Women's Crew Teams will start their season on Saturday, October 13 with the Hobart and William Smith Challenge in Geneva, New York.

Following that race, the season will continue with the Head of the Charles race in Boston and the Head of the Schuylkill race in Philadelphia.

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

September 7, 2007

Men's Soccer Team Catipulted By Last Year's Success

Continentals Begin Season With a 0-0 Tie Against SUNY Oswego

by Lindsay Getman '10
Sports Editor

The season has barely begun, but hopes are already high for the Hamilton Men's Soccer Team. With a winning record for the past seven years, and a trip to the NCAA Division III Championship Quarter-Finals under their belts, the team shows no signs of slowing down.

They finished 11-4-1 last year, with a 6-1 conference record. Their Liberty League record afforded them the opportunity to host the Liberty League Championship tournament.

Five starters return to lead the team this season. Bryant Michels '08 led the returners with three goals last season. Mid-fielder Topher Breedlove '08 had two goals and one assist, and was a First Team All-League selection. Max Akuamoah-Boateng '09, a two-time All-League selection, had two goals and three assists.

On the defensive end, Head Coach Perry Nizzi may look to one of 12 incoming first-years to join the only returning starter: Brian Marcantio '08. Marcantio has started all but one game for the Continentals in the past two years.

The team will also rely once again on all-star keeper Anthony Carello '09 (.86 gaa, .839 save pct., 47 saves). Carello played the first 11 games last season, recording three shutouts before an injury took him out for the remainder of the season. Trevor Clarkson '09 stepped in for the final five games.

The Continentals' performance last season may be a hard act to follow. They won their second Liberty League regular season title. They have participated in the league championship tournament for the past five years.

Last year's advance to the quarterfinals was the third such championship trip in the program's history. The team lost to the eventual national champions, Messiah College.

The team has a history of protecting their ~~home turf~~. Since 2002, the Continentals boast a record of 29-5-2 on Love Field. Fans look forward to these games each year, rain, shine or even snow.

This past Wednesday afternoon the Continentals took on SUNY Oswego in non-league game on Love Field. Around 200 fans showed up to cheer the team on in their season opener. The defense had an oustanding performance. Carello and Clarkson combined for a total of seven saves and the shutout. Clarkson came very far off his line for a point-blank shot in the second half.

Akuahmoah-Boateng led the team with five shots, while Paul Moakler '10 was close behind with four. Out of the 17 shots taken by the Continentals however, not a single one found the back of the net.

Each team was awarded a penalty kick in the second half, but neither was able to convert. The game ended after two overtime periods with the score still at 0-0. The last time Hamilton finished a game tied at zero was at St. Lawrence in 2005.

Tomorrow the team will travel just down the road to Utica, N.Y. to play SUNY IT at 1 p.m. Hamilton beat SUNY IT last year 2-0.

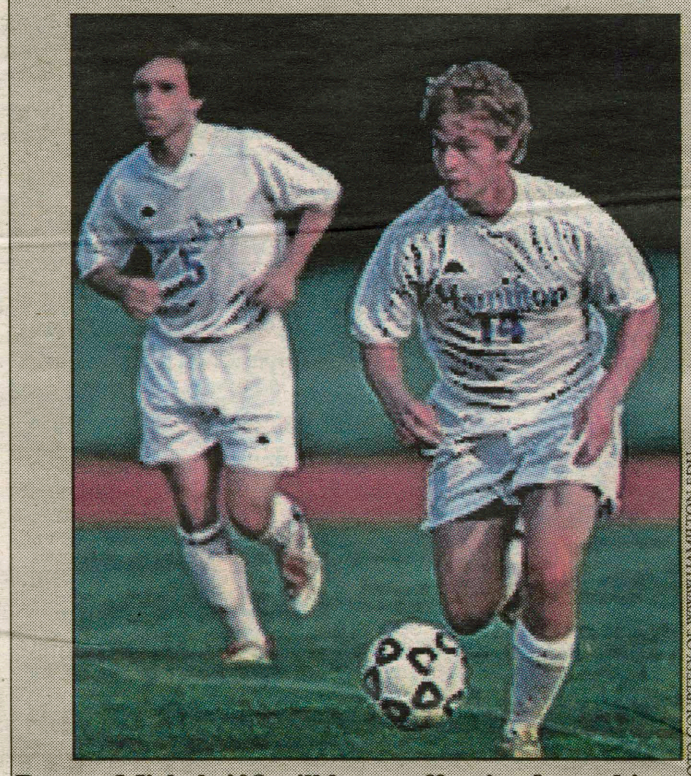

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Bryant Michels '08 will be an offensive force this season.

This Weekend in Hamilton Athletics:

Friday 9/7:
Volleyball v. Baptist Bible @ Ithaca College
Volleyball v. SUNY Brockport @ Ithaca College

Saturday 9/8
Volleyball v. Widener @ Ithaca College
Golf @ Colgate Fall Invitational
Cross Country (M) RIT Invitational
Cross Country (W) RIT Invitational
Soccer (W) @ SUNY Oswego
Soccer (M) @ SUNY Institute of Technology
Field Hockey v. SUNY Morrisville

Tennis Team Slams into Season

Kara and Marni Powers '08 Lead Attack

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

The Women's Tennis Team has high expectations heading into the season. Last year was a bit of a disappointment after a great start for the team as they won six times in their first seven matches. Despite the early success, the team was not able to garner any other wins and finished with a record of 6-12. This year the team will have the opportunity to recover nicely and produce success on the court.

This will be a decisive year for Hamilton. The team needs to ensure that success is maintained throughout the entire season instead of falling into a lapse. Head Coach Jamie King returns for his eighth year and he has brought the team to new heights during his tenure. Hamilton has been ranked as high as 17 in the NCAA Division III Northeast Regional Rankings and has coached his players up to their potential.

Experience gained last year by the team will prove to be instrumental as two of its most consistent players are no longer with the team. That means that the comeback of Kara Powers '08 and Marni Powers '08 will bring a huge boost of confidence to the team. Marni ranks fifth in school history with a .714 singles winning percentage. Kara and Marni also rank ninth in Hamilton's history with a .568 doubles winning percentage over their three year career.

Elizabeth Goheen '09, Ashley Pardoe '09, and Laura Brantley '10 hope to continue to the success that was achieved towards the end of the season when matches became closer and each point was evermore crucial.

Four other members from last year's squad also come back to add even more depth to an impressive top five. This will only help to increase the comfortability between each of the doubles partners because they will have played with each other last season. Acclimating new players into the system will take some time, but team will grow with every game.

The first match for the Continentals will take place on September 15, against Union College. It will be the only home game for the team during the fall season and will be a nice tune-up before the team heads off to the ITA Northeast Regional Championship on September 21-23 in Geneva, New York.

Union did not have much success on the court last year and finished with a team record of 4-9. None of its players were able to finish with a winning record, but Union does have Brittany Miller '09 back as its number one player and she was by far their most productive player last season.

However, Hamilton cannot underestimate their opponent as Union also has plenty of experience and will have played two games by the time they come to face the Continentals. Union is not a tremendously talented team, so Hamilton should be able to get by this opponent with relative ease and use the match as a precursor of what can happen if the team plays up to its maximum potential.

It is crucial for the Continentals to start out on a good note because it will allow the players to play with confidence and understand that they can overcome their mistakes. The team should forget about last season's collapse and concentrate on how they have improved upon their game. Starting out with a win can help ease the team into the season and predict future success.

Be sure to look out for the Women's Tennis Team this year because leadership, coaching, and hard work will lead this team to great success on the tennis court and allow for team unity.